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Colonies

General 32

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ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES

1893-94

Colonies General

32

IRISH UNIVERSITY PRESS

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Contents

IUP Page Number

For ease of reference IUP editors have assigned a continuous pagination which appears on the top outer margin of each page.

State of the Colonies
Annual Reports
1893–94 [c.6857] Vol LX

Malta
Report for 1892 9

Mauritius
Report for 1891 29
Report for 1892 45

Natal
Report for 1891–92 61

Newfoundland
Report for 1891 73

British New Guinea
Report for 1891–92 91

Rodrigues
Report for 1891 141
Report for 1892 157

St Helena
Report for 1891 169
Report for 1892 183

St Lucia
Report for 1891 201
Report for 1892 225

St Vincent
Report for 1892 249

Sierra Leone
Report for 1891 265
Report for 1892 291

Straits Settlements
Report for 1891 319
Report for 1892 343

Trinidad and Tobago
Report for 1891 371
Report for 1892 395

Turks and Caicos Islands
Report for 1892 425

Victoria
Digest of Statistics for 1891 441

Zululand
Report for 1891 509
Report for 1892 519

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 79.

MALTA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Reports for 1890 and 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 48.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–29.]

COLONIAL REPORTS

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
43	Turks Islands	1891
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891-92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Leeward Islands	,,
77	Bahamas	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 79.

MALTA.

(For Reports for 1890 and 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 48.)

SIR H. A. SMYTH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, Palace, Valletta, June 7, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Blue Book for 1892, with a covering report from the Chief Secretary to Government.

I have, &c.

The Most Hon. (Signed) H. A. SMYTH,
the Marquess of Ripon, K.G., Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

Chief Secretary's Office, Valletta,

SIR, May 31, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book for 1892:—

1. The revenue and expenditure may be tabulated thus:—

Revenue.

Heads of Revenue. from 1st January to 31st December.	Estimate.	Actual.	Excess.	Deficiency.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	146,583 0 0	161,158 0 4	14,575 0 4	—
Harbour and quarantine dues	12,465 0 0	8,608 8 6	—	3,856 11 6
Licences, court fines, &c.	5,233 0 0	5,860 0 8½	627 0 8½	—
Fees and reimbursements	17,845 0 0	22,937 16 8¼	5,092 16 8¼	—
Post office	10,007 0 0	10,743 18 6	736 18 6	—
Railway (from 25th February)	*4,700 0 0	3,750 19 10	—	†949 0 2
Water supply	8,060 0 0	7,314 9 7½	—	745 10 4½
Rents—Rural	14,710 0 0	14,283 18 2¾	—	426 1 9¼
Rents—Urban	24,680 0 0	25,804 7 11¾	1,124 7 11¾	—
Rents on account of foundations	4,040 0 0	4,172 5 11½	132 5 11½	—
Interest	23,653 0 0	24,597 4 10½	944 4 10½	—
Total	271,976 0 0	289,231 11 2¾	23,232 15 0½	5,977 3 9¾

* Estimate for 12 months.

† Due to the re-opening of the line not having taken place till February 25, and to the estimate being reckoned for 12 months working.

I 77010. Wt. 10230.

Comparative Statement of the Revenue of 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount collected in 1891.	Amount collected in 1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	155,085 11 1	161,158 0 4	6,072 9 3	—
Harbour and quarantine dues	10,784 11 0	8,608 8 6	—	2,176 2 6
Licences, court fines, &c.	5,473 17 8¾	5,860 0 8½	386 2 11¾	—
Fees and reimbursements	20,782 15 6¼	22,937 16 8¼	2,155 1 2	—
Post office	10,815 7 9	10,743 18 6	—	71 9 3
Railway	—	3,750 19 10	3,750 19 10	—
Water supply	4,643 1 2	7,314 9 7½	2,671 8 5½	—
Rents—Rural	14,312 11 11½	14,283 18 2¾	—	28 13 8¾
Rents—Urban	25,094 6 2¼	25,804 7 11¾	710 1 9½	—
Rents on account of foundations	4,073 7 10¾	4,172 5 11½	98 18 0¾	—
Interest	24,059 12 3¾	24,597 4 10½	537 12 6¾	—
Total	275,125 2 7¼	289,231 11 2¾	16,382 14 1¼	2,276 5 5¾

Expenditure from December 1, 1891, *to December* 31, 1892.

Personal Emoluments.	Estimate.	Actual.	Excess.	Saving.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
The Governor and Legislature	4,138 1 6	4,087 2 0	—	50 19 6
Chief Secretary's Department	3,989 19 11	3,990 4 0	0 4 1	—
Receiver General's Department	2,175 14 9	2,202 14 8	26 19 11	—
Customs and Port Department	9,252 19 10	8,990 16 9	—	262 3 1
Audit Department	1,661 8 8	1,538 10 9	—	122 17 11
Printing office	1,011 10 6	843 3 11	—	168 6 7
Railway Department	1,940 19 0	1,537 11 8	—	403 7 4
Legal Departments	16,099 2 10	15,763 5 7	—	335 17 3
Police	37,678 16 3	36,555 3 7	—	1,123 12 8
Prisons	1,640 4 8	1,610 11 11	—	29 12 9
Charitable Institutions including Monte di Pieta	13,569 6 9	12,615 16 7	—	953 10 2
Education	18,218 12 5	18,056 17 10	—	161 14 7
Post Office	3,329 10 11	3,148 15 5	—	180 15 6
Ecclesiastical	733 2 11	733 2 11	—	—
Superintendent of Works Department	6,096 3 3	5,795 4 4	—	300 18 11
	121,535 14 2	117,469 1 11	27 4 0	4,093 16 3

Other Charges.	Estimate.	Actual.	Excess.	Saving.
	£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charges on account of interest and burthens	16,542 17 9	16,333 3 3	—	209 14 6
Pensions	13,885 10 1	14,528 8 0	642 17 11	—
The Governor and Legislature	748 9 11	698 9 6	—	50 0 5
Chief Secretary's Department	694 0 0	628 13 3	—	65 6 9
Receiver General's Department	414 4 4	276 3 4	—	138 1 0
Customs and Port Department	2,621 16 8	2,554 18 3	—	66 18 5
Audit Department	102 10 0	72 10 11	—	29 19 1
Printing office	728 6 6	717 10 5	—	10 16 1
Railway Department	3,684 8 11	3,631 18 4¾	—	52 10 6¼
Legal Departments	3,870 14 9	3,675 12 5	—	195 2 4
Police	7,111 7 5	7,080 8 2	—	30 19 3
Prisons	2,384 3 4	2,301 14 0	—	82 9 4
Charitable Institutions including Monte di Pieta	1,605 17 6	30,905 16 7	—	700 0 11
Education	3,348 18 0	3,272 14 11	—	76 3 1
Post office	9,020 16 11	6,346 0 7	—	2,674 16 4
Ecclesiastical	809 12 11	772 11 10	—	37 1 1
Military Expenditure	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous Services	12,361 9 11	10,629 10 3½	—	1,731 19 7½
Superintendent of Public Works	1,389 18 0	1,363 17 7	—	26 0 5
Public Works recurrent	68,145 19 7	55,759 0 0	—	12,386 19 7
Public Works extraordinary	23,284 18 8	13,353 1 4	—	9,931 17 4
	207,756 1 2	179,902 3 0¼	642 17 11	28,496 16 0¾

Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of 1892.

Heads.	Amount expended in 1891.	Amount expended from 1st December 1891 to 31st December 1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d
Interest and burthens	16,266 14 3	16,333 3 3	66 9 0	—
Pensions	12,335 19 10	14,528 8 0	2,192 8 2	—
The Governor and Legislature	5,198 16 11	4,785 11 6	—	413 5 5
Chief Secretary	4,260 6 10	4,618 17 3	358 10 5	—
Receiver General	2,141 14 8	2,478 18 0	337 3 4	—
Customs and Port Department	10,050 5 6	11,545 15 0	1,495 9 6	—
Audit Department	1,561 11 1	1,611 1 8	49 10 7	—
Printing office	939 17 0	1,560 14 4	620 17 4	—
Railway Department	906 19 1	5,169 10 0¾	4,262 10 11¾	—

Heads.	Amount expended in 1891.	Amount expended from 1st December 1891 to 31st December 1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Legal Departments - - -	17,799 10 7	19,438 18 0	1,639 7 5	—
Police Department - - -	38,747 15 5	43,635 11 9	4,887 16 4	—
Prisons - - - - -	3,319 18 9	3,912 5 11	592 7 2	—
Charitable institutions - - -	39,310 9 4	43,521 13 2	4,211 3 10	—
Educational - - - -	19,602 6 4	21,329 12 9	1,727 6 5	—
Post Office - - - -	9,218 18 6	9,494 16 0	275 17 6	—
Ecclesiastical - - - -	1,339 13 2	1,505 14 9	166 1 7	—
Military expenditure - - -	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	—	—
Miscellaneous services - - -	10,488 0 8	10,629 10 3½	141 9 7½	—
Superintendent of Public Works -	6,269 8 3	7,159 1 11	889 13 8	—
Public works annually recurrent -	57,780 3 4	55,759 0 0	—	2,021 3 4
Public works extraordinary - -	19,332 3 11	13,353 1 4	—	5,979 2 7
	281,870 13 5	297,371 4 11¼	23,914 2 10¼	8,413 11 4
Government Immovable Property Account - - - -	6,135 7 6	6,735 4 0¼	599 16 6¼	—

Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government and promulgated during the year 1892:—

No. I.

To make provisions for the formation, by voluntary enlistment, of a corps to be called "The Malta Militia Division of Submarine Miners, Royal Engineers," and for the training, exercise, and discipline thereof.

No. II.

To amend No. 36 of Article 307 of the Criminal Laws.

No. III.

To transfer to Her Majesty's Commercial Court, the jurisdiction exercised in these islands by the Vice-Admiralty Court.

No. IV.

To exempt the "Conservatorio Vincenzo Bugeja" from the obligation of selling certain property.

No. V.

To amend Proclamation No. XXIII. of 1822.

No. VI.

For the naturalization of Santi Bisazza.

No. VII.

To amend the laws of Organisation and Civil Procedure.

No. VIII.

For applying a sum not exceeding 73,368*l.* 10*s.* to the service of the year 1891.

No. IX.

For applying a sum not exceeding 266,369*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, to the service for the 13 months from December 1, 1891, to December 31, 1892.

Establishments.

The changes in office during the year were the following:—

Mr. P. Trapani, Auditor-General and Director of Contracts, was appointed Receiver-General and Director of Contracts; Mr. A. Sciortino, Receiver-General was appointed Auditor-General; Mr. P. De Bono, LL.D., Professor of Law in the University, was appointed one of Her Majesty's Judges, in the place of Judge Mr. L. Xuereb, LL.D., superannuated; Mr. G. Busuttil, M.D., appointed to the new situation of Resident Superintendent and Medical Officer of the New Poor House; Mr. W. R. Rapinet, M.D., formerly Resident Assistant Physician and Surgeon at the Lunatic Asylum, appointed Assistant to the latter officer; Mr. G. Ullo Xuereb, M.D., appointed Resident Assistant Physician and Surgeon of the Lunatic Asylum; Mr. A. Naudi, LL.D., appointed Professor of Law *vice* Mr. P. De Bono, LL.D., appointed one of Her Majesty's Judges; Mr. R. Bamber appointed Teacher of English and Mathematics, in the place of Mr. Spruyt de Bay, resigned; Mr. A. M. Spiteri, late schoolmaster at Kala, Gozo, appointed schoolmaster at Chircop, in lieu of Mr. Ellul; Mr. Giorgio Caruana, appointed schoolmaster at Kala, Gozo, *vice* Mr. A. M. Spiteri transferred to the post of schoolmaster at Chircop; Mr. Frederick Mamo, Deputy Superintendent of Public Works, appointed Postmaster-General *vice* Sir F. Inglott, K.C.M.G., pensioned; and Mr. Lorenzo Gatt, C.E., appointed Acting Manager of the Railway.

Population.

The population of these islands on December 31 was as follows:—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.	Remarks.
Malta - - -	73,149	74,792	147,941	Not including troops from the United Kingdom and their families.
Gozo - - -	9,069	9,879	18,948	
Total - -	82,218	84,671	166,889	

Males.	Females.	Total.
	Births.	
3,341	3,237	6,578
	Deaths.	
2,983	2,759	5,742
	Marriages.	
1,086	1,086	1,086

The amount of deposits in the savings bank was as follows:—

—	1892.	Depositors.	1891.	Depositors.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
In Malta - -	442,393 19 $6\frac{3}{4}$	5,430	434,315 14 8	5,347
In Gozo - -	44,506 17 1	643	40,887 2 4	622
Totals - -	486,900 16 $7\frac{3}{4}$	6,073	475,202 17 0	5,969

Savings Bank.—Profit and Loss Account.

DR.	£ s. d.		CR. £ s. d.
Establishment Expenses:—			
To Salaries for 1892 - -	343 3 7	By interest recovered - -	25 12 1
„ Office expenses - -	15 16 1	„ Book account - - -	9 15 3
„ Rent account - - -	108 0 0	„ Dividends from consols -	11,218 17 4
„ Interest paid and due for 1892 - - - -	7,194 14 0	„ Interest from Monte -	1,685 15 0
	7,661 13 8		
Balance to profit - -	5,278 6 0		
	12,939 19 8		12,939 19 8

Balance Sheet of the Savings Bank on December 31, 1892.

Assets.	£ s. d.	*Liabilities.*	£ s. d.
Treasury banking account -	22,761 12 3¾	Depositors' account - -	486,900 16 7¾
Investments - - -	469,131 11 11	,, Profit and loss - -	5,278 6 0
Gozo Branch (Malta) account current - - -	285 18 5		
	492,179 2 7¾		492,179 2 7¾

Balance Sheet of the Monte di Pietà on December 31, 1892.

Assets.	£ s. d.	*Liabilities.*	£ s. d.
Landed property - - -	70,214 15 10	Stock - - - -	50,214 15 10
Cash - - - - -	234 1 3	Loans - - - -	7,694 9 5
Pawning transactions - -	47,986 3 5¾	Treasury loan account - -	60,150 0 0
Treasury banking account -	2,160 9 10	Surplus on sales of pawns -	2,102 11 8
Gozo Branch (Malta) account current - - -	69 3 9½	Malta Branch (Gozo) account current - -	69 3 9½
		Profit and loss - - -	433 13 5¾
	120,664 14 2¼		120,664 14 2¼

Education.

The following is a list of the Government educational establishments:—

	No. of Scholars.	
	1892.	1891.
The University, attended by - -	96	158
The Lyceum, attended by - -	436	450
Two Secondary Schools, attended by -	207	197
Seventy-seven Primary Schools, attended by - - - - - -	11,046	10,800
Ten Infant Schools, attended by -	1,020	985
Total - -	12,805	12,590

The expenditure of the educational establishments amounted to 20,601*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, and the fees paid by the scholars for attendance in the University and Lyceum to 534*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*

Imports and Exports.

	£		£	
The following is the value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port -	1,040,832	{in 1892, against}	1,019,088	in 1891.
Value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were re-exported in the same vessels - -	11,592,206	{in 1892, against}	34,572,911	in 1891.
	12,633,038		35,591,999	„

viz.:—

From the U. Kingdom -	183,482	{in 1892, against}	129,212	in 1891.
From the British Colonies	818,902	„	1,937,131	„
From H. M.'s ships in port	656	„	844	„
From foreign countries -	11,629,998	„	33,524,812	„
	12,633,038		35,591,999	„

	£		£	
The value of exports from portions of cargoes which were actually landed at this port - -	69,000	{in 1892, against}	50,209	in 1891.
Value of exports of whole cargoes which merely touched at this port and proceeded in the same vessels -	11,673,579	{in 1892, against}	34,905,768	in 1891.
	11,742,579		34,955,977	„

viz.:—

To the United Kingdom	1,910,873	{in 1892, against}	5,705,751	in 1891.
„ British Colonies -	4,064,228	„	14,468,660	„
„ H.M.'s ships -	6,442	„	5,544	„
„ foreign countries -	5,761,036	„	14,776,022	„
	11,742,579		34,955 977	„

The shipping movements in the port during the last three years are as follows :—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1889 - - -	4,298	5,099,734	1,322	108,720
1890 - - -	3,863	4,495,864	1,130	78,604
1891 - - -	3,286	3,988,397	1,410	106,348
	11,447	13,583,995	3,862	293,672
Average - -	3,816	4,527,998	1,287	97,891
1892 - -	2,430	3,023,244	1,134	90,100
Decrease - -	1,386	1,504,754	153	7,791

The following Table compares the actual arrivals in 1892 with those in 1891 :—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1891 - - - -	3,286	3,988,397	1,410	106,348
1892 - - - -	2,430	3,023,244	1,134	90,100
Decrease - - -	856	965,153	276	16,248

Criminal Statistics.

The following is a statement of offences punishable under local laws, showing the number of cases and of persons brought before the courts by the police in 1892 :—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
Crimes against public tranquility - -	141	183	18	165
„ affecting public credit - -	3	6	2	4
„ „ the good order of families -	64	83	15	68
„ against the person - - -	1,045	1,503	188	1,315
„ „ property - - -	312	420	81	339
Contempt of court - - - - -	3	5	1	4
CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Affecting public order - - -	1,260	2,328	153	2,175
Against the person - - - -	295	386	51	335
„ property - - - -	197	334	35	299
OTHER CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Under special Ordinances - - -	1,101	1,757	35	299
POLICE LAWS.				
Contraventions - - - - -	4,230	8,681	264	8,417
Total - - - - - -	8,651	15,686	889	14,797

viz. :—

Maltese - - - - -	15,432
English - - - - -	173
Foreigners - - - -	81
Total - - -	15,636

The number of persons committed to prison in 1892 was as follows:—

Men - - - - - -	5,465
Women - - - - -	897
Boys - - - - -	1,260
Girls - - - - -	26
Total - - -	7,648

Revenue.

The amount of revenue collected in the preceding year was 275,125*l.* 2*s.* 7¼*d.* whilst the actual revenue from all sources received in 1892 amounted to 289,231*l.* 11*s.* 2¾*d.*; the revenue of 1892 exceeded, therefore, that of 1891 by 14,106*l.* 8*s.* 7½*d.*

This increase is chiefly due:—

(*a.*) to a larger amount of Customs receipts;
(*b.*) to a new source of revenue derived from the railway;
(*c.*) to the re-letting of Government urban tenements at a revaluation of rent;
(*d.*) to a new system of accounting for the recovery of the expenditure incurred for laying house services.

The estimated revenue for the year 1892 was 271,976*l.* and that actually collected was as above stated, 289,231*l.* 11*s.* 2¾*d.*, thus the receipts were in excess of the estimate by 17,255*l.* 11*s.* 2¾*d.*

The receipts derived from the Customs Department form the bulk of the revenue of this Colony; this source of revenue has for some years been steadily increasing, and it reached in the last three years the figures shown hereunder, viz:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1890 - - -	147,140	10	2
1891 - - -	155,085	11	1
1892 - - -	161,158	0	4

Expenditure.

During the year under review, it has been found desirable to rearrange the period of the financial year as regards expenditure, so as to make the period of the accounts both with regard to revenue and to expenditure to commence and end between the same dates (January 1 to December 31) the year of expenditure having previously been reckoned from December 1 of one year to November 30 of the following year. In consequence of this alteration an additional amount of expenditure for the 13th month of December has been brought to account, and hence the large apparent increase in the year's expenditure, particularly under Personal Emoluments. For the foregoing reasons comparison of the expenditure for 1892, as regards the true cost of any of the Establishments, with that of former years, would be difficult.

The provisions authorized for the year (including 17,350*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* for the 13th month of December) amounted collectively to 329,291*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* The actual expenditure reached the sum of 297,371*l.* 4*s.* 11¼*d.*, and this, compared with the revenue received, shows an excess over the latter of 8,139*l.* 13*s.* 8½*d.* The following figures show the progressive rate of the expenditure in the last three years:—

1890, 266,900*l.* 10*s.* 1½*d.*, whereof 97,476*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* for personal emoluments.
1891, 281,870*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*, whereof 103,984*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* for personal emoluments.
1892 (13 months), 297,371*l.* 4*s.* 11¼*d.*, whereof 117,469*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* for personal emoluments.

Independently of the extra charges for the additional month of expenditure, there has been an increase under this head for "Personal emoluments" attributable chiefly to two new establishments for which, for the first time in the year under review, provision has been taken, viz., the Railway Department and the Slaughter-house Department.

The expenditure on the Railway Department amounted during 1892 to 5,169*l.* 10*s.* 0¾*d.*, and that of the Slaughter-house concern to 1,036*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* Both these Departments are, however, earning a revenue which, as regards the former, there is every reason to hope will, at no distant date, considerably develop, and as regards the latter, a large margin of profit is already being realized, in fact, in 1892 this profit amounted to 1,944*l.* 4*s.* 5½*d.*

The large spending Departments of this Colony are the following:—

The Police Department,
The Charitable Institutions,
The Education Department, and
The Public Works Department.

The actual cost of the Police Department, owing chiefly to the re-organization of the corps and to the numerical addition of officers and men, has been rising considerably during the last three years.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1890 it was - - - - -	28,509	2	2
„ 1891 „ - - - - -	38,747	15	5
„ 1892 (including extra month of December) - -	43 635	11	9

Deducting the extra provision taken for December, amounting to 3,080*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*, the cost for 1892 would, under ordinary circumstances, have been 40,554*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*

The Charitable Institutions appear also to be a Department tending to increase its expenditure, owing to the large number of pauper inmates admitted into the respective hospitals and asylums, and to the rise in the market price of provisions. The building of the new asylum for the aged and sufferers from incurable diseases has been completed and opened, and the consequent change has caused some extra expenditure, which contributes also to the increased total cost for the year.

The comparison of the cost of the Charitable Institutions with the preceding two years is the following:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1890 it was - - - - -	37,531	10	8
„ 1891 „ - - - - -	39,310	9	4
„ 1892 (including extra month of December.) - - -	43,521	13	2

If the provision taken for December (2,454*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*) is deducted, the cost for 1892 would be 41,066*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*

The growing want for the spread of instruction among the people and the consequent increase and development of the public schools carries with it a necessary augmentation of the expenditure of the educational establishments. The following figures show the yearly cost during the last three years:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
In 1890 - - - - -	18,722	13	11
„ 1891 - - - - -	19,602	6	4
„ 1892 (including extra month of December) - -	21,329	12	9

which latter sum, if the extra provision for December (1,530*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*) is deducted, works out to 19,798*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

As regards the Public Works Department, although the provisions taken during the year for "Personal emoluments" and the expense of carrying out recurrent and extraordinary works reached no less a sum than 98,916*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, the actual expenditure amounted to only 76,271*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*, which is less than that occurred in the two preceding years, as shown hereunder:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
1890 - - - - - - -	81,825	18	4
1891 - - - - - - -	83,381	15	6
1892 (including the 13th month for Personal emoluments only) - -	76,271	3	3

The important extraordinary works in progress in 1892 were:—

(1.) The new Ospizio for the aged and sufferers from incurable diseases;
(2.) The construction of a mole at Misida;
(3.) Excavation and construction of Grain "Fosse" at Floriana;
(4.) Construction of additional accommodation in the Lunatic Asylum; and
(5.) Erection of sheds on the Bridge Wharf at Porto Nuovo.

Civil Establishment.

Sir H. A. Smyth, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony, having been absent from the island from April 8 to April 24, and from July 30 to December 9, Major-General O. H. A. Nicholls, R.A., was appointed Deputy Governor to act in his stead.

Mr. Emilio de Petri was appointed to act as Chief Secretary to Government during my temporary absence from the island, from July 3 to September 23.

MALTA. 1892.

Mr. S. E. Magri, LL.D., acted as Superintendent of Police during the absence from this island of Capt. C. La Primaudaye, R.N., from January 30 to February 3, and from July 26 to October 6.

Securities of Public Officers.

The number of public officers giving security in 1892 was 44, as compared with that of the year 1891 amounting to 36.

This addition is due to certain officers of the new Department of the Railway having been called upon to give securities for the due discharge of their duties.

Legislation.

During 1892 nine Ordinances were passed, of which the following are the more important:—

Ordinance No. I., "To make provisions for the formation of a corps to be called 'The Malta Militia Division of Submarine Miners, Royal Engineers.'"

This Ordinance was rendered necessary as Ordinance No. I. of 1889 did not empower the Head of the Government to raise the corps above mentioned; it became necessary to have recourse to fresh legislation for the reason that the proposed division of Submarine Miners was intended to be entirely distinct from the Malta Militia.

Ordinance No. II. "To amend No. 36 of Article 307 of the Criminal Laws."

The acquisition on the part of the Government of Malta of the railway made an alteration in that provision of the Criminal Laws necessary in order to give power to the Head of the Government to issue regulations and byelaws concerning the management of the railway.

Ordinance No. III. "To transfer to Her Majesty's Commercial Court the jurisdiction exercised in these islands by the Vice-Admiralty Court."

The expediency of this enactment arose from the passing by the Imperial Parliament of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, giving power to the Legislature of a British Possession to declare any of its courts of unlimited civil jurisdiction to be a Colonial Court of Admiralty.

Population.

The estimated population for 1892, as reported by the Police Department, was, on December 31, 166,889, being an increase of 836 over that of 1891 at the same date.

The births registered during the year numbered 6,578, a rate of 39·4 per 1,000 of the population; of this number 3,341 were males and 3,237 females.

5,742 deaths were registered, being in the proportion of 34·4 to each 1,000 of the estimated population, and showing an increase of 2,337.

Compared with the last ten years (excepting the year 1885, when a severe epidemic of measles caused an unprecedented infantile mortality, and had raised the rate of mortality to 35 per 1,000), there appears to be an increase in the number of deaths registered.

There can be no doubt that the ordinary climatic conditions of the Colony are very favourable to health; but the sanitary conditions are far from satisfactory; the drainage outside the fortified towns leaves much to be desired, and until the Council is prepared to provide the necessary funds for correcting this latter evil, sanitary measures on an insufficient scale cannot but fail to meet modern requirements.

The number of marriages registered during the year amounted to 1,086, showing a decrease, compared with the previous year, of 59, the rate being 6·5 against 6·7.

Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on December 31, 1892, was 6,073; the deposits during the year amounted to 113,243*l.* 16*s.* 4¾*d.*, and the withdrawals to 114,883*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*

The total amount to the credit of depositors at the end of the year was 486,900*l.* 16*s.* 7¾*d.*

The funds invested amounted to 469,131*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*

The interest on investments amounted to 12,939*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, and the interest credited to depositors and the expenses of management amounted to 7,661*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, leaving a balance of 5,278*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.*, which amount is transferred to Revenue Account as profit of the Savings Bank.

Monte di Pietà.

The assets of the Monte di Pietà were 120,664*l.* 14*s.* 2¼*d.*, and the liabilities 120,231*l.* 0*s.* 8½*d.*, showing an amount of 433*l.* 13*s.* 5¾*d.* as profit to be transferred to Revenue Account.

Education.

The primary schools at the end of the year under review were reported to be attended by 11,066 children; the schools of secondary instruction were attended by 643 scholars, and the University by 96.

Steps have been taken lately by the Government for erecting school buildings at Hamrun and Victoria, Gozo; the inadequacy, however, of the accommodation in other localities for the number of children whose parents seek to obtain education for them is still very marked.

The number of children who could not be admitted for want of accommodation in 1892 was reported to amount to not less than 5,073.

The amount collected under the head of fees, &c., from the University and Lyceum was 534*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure of the whole educational establishments amounted to 20,601*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*

Shipping and Trade.

The arrivals of vessels in 1892 were 2,430 steamers and 1,134 sailing vessels, showing a decrease of 856 steamers and 276 sailing vessels when compared with the previous year.

The trade of Malta is largely dependent upon the number of vessels making use of the port; and it is apparent that this number has lately diminished considerably. It is believed that the depression of trade is due in a great measure to the general commercial stagnation elsewhere in Europe, to the restriction of business caused by apprehended danger, of the appearance of cholera and consequent quarantine restrictions.

There are also other causes which call for special notice:—The competition of the neighbouring ports of call of Gibraltar, Algiers, and Port Said has contributed to produce a decrease in the number of steamers which might have called at Malta, and the revenue derived from shipping and port dues has therefore decreased.

The rapid displacing of the older type of steamers running to the Black Sea and to the far east through the canal by new ships with triple expansion engines and with exceptional facilities for carrying coal for long voyages at a time when freights are low, is also a cause of the decline in the number of steamers callingat Malta.

Police and Crime.

The internal police force at the end of 1892 consisted of the following officers and men:—

1 Superintendent.
1 Senior assistant superintendent.
5 Assistant superintendents.
15 Inspectors.
24 1st class sergeants.
55 Sergeants.
305 Constables.

The Superintendent reports satisfactorily on the state of the police. The reorganization of the force can be considered to have thoroughly fulfilled the purposes which it was designed to achieve. Some difficulty still exists in obtaining recruits having a colloquial knowledge of English or Italian.

The number of cases reported to the police was 27,822, or 3,516 more than in 1891.

The number of cases in which arrests were made by the police during the year was 356, or 77 less than in the previous year.

The total number of offences reported to the magistrates by the police was 8,651, showing an increase of 691 cases in 1892 when compared with 1891.

Gaols and Prisons.

The total number of persons committed to prison during the year was 7,648, being 1,433 more than in 1891; of these 5,465 were males, 897 women, and 1,286 juveniles.

The committals were classified as follows:—

Six for debt, 429 for safe custody, and 7,213 for penal imprisonment.

Of the 7,648 committals, 5,418 were previously convicted as follows:—

1,942 once, 1,318 twice, and 2,156 three times.

The daily average was, in prison 279, on the sick list nine.

There were 42 admissions to the hospital during the year, and 3 deaths.

The total annual cost of the prison for the year was 3,912*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* showing an increase of 592*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* when compared with that of 1891. This increase is chiefly due to the higher cost of provisions, and to the unprecedented increase in the number of prisoners.

The estimated annual amount of the prisoners' earnings was in 1892 760*l.*, of which 210*l.* was in respect of the reclaiming of waste land and the produce of prisonlands.

The amount derived from the proceeds of work of prisoners and transferred to revenue was 184*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*

Railway.

The Malta Railway was originally constructed by a private company at a cost of about 90,000*l.*, and it was opened in 1883. It is 7½ miles long and the gauge is one metre.

In 1890 the company had become unable to keep its trains running; the railway became the property of the Government in accordance with certain provisions in the original grant for its construction. A portion of the rolling stock seized by the creditors of the company was bought at auction on behalf of the Government. The permanent way and rolling stock were repaired with funds advance from the Immovable Property Account and the traffic was resumed on February 25, 1892.

The gross revenue from that date to December 31 was 3,750*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*, and the working expenses amounted to 3,582*l.* 0*s.* 9½*d.* leaving a net profit of 168*l.* 19*s.* 0½*d.* The expenditure includes 428*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* for interest and sinking fund on 14,653*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* capital account chargeable to Government Immovable Property. Besides the working expenses as above shown, a sum of 1,641*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* was expended from voted services in railway works on capital account. The number of passengers carried was 534,833. Of these 30,854 were 1st Class, 324,531 3rd class, and the remainder shows the number of passengers who travel by the workmen's trains. No 2nd class accommodation is provided.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To His Excellency
Sir H. A. Smyth, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Malta.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 57.

MAURITIUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 27.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.-7.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 57.

MAURITIUS.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 27.]

Acting Governor JERNINGHAM to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Mauritius,
August 24, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the summary of the Blue Book and of a report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Elliott.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM,
Administering the Government.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT to accompany the BLUE BOOK for 1891.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue received in 1891 was Rs. 7,595,650, a decrease of Rs. 179,123 as compared with the revenue of 1890.

2. The estimated revenue of 1891 was Rs. 7,429,977, but as this amount was insufficient to meet the estimated expenditure of Rs. 7,911,571, additional taxation was imposed by Ordinances passed in December 1890. The amount that it was anticipated would be obtained in 1891 by the extra taxation was not reached, owing to the large quantity of goods withdrawn from bond before the close of December 1890, in order to avoid the additional duty leviable in 1891.

3. The customs dues in 1890 produced Rs. 2,645,186, and in 1891 Rs. 2,424,425, a decrease of Rs. 220,771, due principally to the cause mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and partly also to a falling off in the importation of tobacco.

Owing to the increase in the harbour dues, Rs. 18,048 more were received under this head in 1891 than in 1890.

4. The license, excise, and other internal revenue duties, which produced Rs. 2,565,910 in 1890, amounted in 1891 to Rs. 2,709,757,

an increase of Rs. 143,847, attributable to the additional duties leviable in 1891.

5. The revenue under the head of "Fees of Court or Office, "Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid," shows a decrease in 1891 of Rs. 167,949 as compared with 1890, but this is due to the fact that the receipts on account of Poor Law patients and the sale of medicines to the Poor Law Commission, which are matters of account, were credited to revenue in 1890 and not in 1891.

6. There was an increase in 1891 of Rs. 21,432 in the railway revenue, of Rs. 15,520 under land sales, and of Rs. 13,036 in miscellaneous receipts.

7. The expenditure in 1891 was Rs. 8,192,265 an increase of Rs. 486,954 over the expenditure of 1890.

8. In 1891 there was an unforeseen expenditure of Rs. 267,396 occasioned by an epidemic of small-pox, and a sum of Rs. 172,124 was paid for the diffusion plant set up on Britannia Estate in 1890. There was also a larger amount spent by the Public Works Department, as more extensive repairs were required by public buildings, and the works at the new Central Prisons, Beau-Bassin were continued.

Assets and Liabilities.

9. The following statement will show the position of the Government accounts under the heads,—1. of the Commissioners of Currency, who issue Government notes of the value of 5, 10, and 50 rupees in exchange for silver rupees of India; 2. of the Government Savings Bank, under the direction of the Receiver General; 3. of the Curatelle, which administers the estates of deceased persons and absentees who are not represented in the Colony; and 4. of the Treasury proper.

	Assets.	Liability.	Surplus.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Commissioners of Currency -	2,945,151	2,668,250	276,901
Savings Bank - - -	3,588,289	3,447,627	140,662
Curatelle - - -	470,010	470,010	—
Treasury proper - -	1,581,103	726,020	855,083
Total - - -	8,584,553	7,311,907	1,272,646

Public Debt.

10. This amounted on the 31st December 1891 to 777,749*l.* 13*s.*, made up of 161,000*l.* Mauritius Railway debentures, payable

15th January 1895 and 15th January 1896, and bearing interest at 6 per cent.; of 56,000*l.* Savanne Railway 4½ per cent. debentures, payable by annual drawings; of 2,600*l.* Moka Railway 4 per cent. debentures, payable by annual drawings; of 73,400*l.* Consolidated 4 per cent. debentures, payable by annual drawings; of 480,749*l.* 13*s.* Mauritius Inscribed Stock; and of 4,000*l.* Poor Law Commission 5 per cent. debentures.

11. For the redemption of the debentures and inscribed stock the sinking fund accumulated up to the 31st December 1891 amounted to 140,293*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, and, adding to this the surplus balances of the Commissioners of Currency, the Savings Bank, and the Treasury proper, which amount to Rs. 1,272,646, or, converted into sterling at Rs. 13·90 the £, 91,557*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, the balance representing the debt at the close of 1891 was 545,898*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*

Imports and Exports.

12. The trade for the year was valued at Rs. 40,785,744, against Rs. 44,323,642 in 1890; divided into—

——	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - -	16,702,818	16,477,341
Exports - - -	27,620,824	24,308,403

or, exclusive of specie and bullion—

——	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - -	16,375,377	16,433,133
Exports - - -	26,962,930	23,755,088

13. The value of the principal imports for the years 1890 and 1891 was as follows:—

——	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.
Animals - - -	332,744	302,245
Apothecaries' ware - -	182,670	141,929
Grain, flour, meal - -	5,153,773	5,915,858
Provisions - - -	1,434,549	1,113,102
Malt liquors, wines and spirits -	823,657	806,341
Cotton manufactures - -	1,254,631	917,664
Woollen manufactures -	218,597	174,597

——	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.
Haberdashery - - -	407,245	364,170
Coal - - - -	542,372	611,934
Machinery - - -	209,607	91,226
Iron and steel - - -	193,691	183,269
Hardware and cutlery - -	1,043,452	406,130
Leather, wrought and unwrought - - -	243,721	162,966
Manure and fertilizers - -	1,100,217	1,064,140
Oil of all kinds - - -	764,064	696,562
Tobacco - - -	193,304	133,890
Total - - -	14,098,294	13,086,023

14. Adding the charges and exchange to the value of the imports given in the preceding table, the result will be as follows :—

——	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.
Animals - - -	551,820	521,285
Apothecaries' ware - -	302,197	240,829
Grain, flour, meal - -	7,070,167	8,281,693
Provisions - - -	2,231,893	1,744,627
Malt liquors, wine, and spirits -	1,367,227	1,370,766
Cotton manufactures - -	1,949,851	1,420,386
Woollen manufactures - -	358,275	292,978
Haberdashery - - -	667,081	610,864
Coal - - - -	1,408,150	1,620,141
Machinery - - -	347,948	155,084
Iron and steel - - -	320,269	310,385
Hardware and cutlery - -	1,724,693	688,065
Leather, wrought and unwrought - - -	399,247	271,042
Manure and fertilizers - -	1,757,762	1,706,018
Oil of all kinds - -	1,121,645	1,012,135
Tobacco - - -	298,784	212,453
Total - - -	21,877,009	20,458,751

15. The following table shows in kilogrammes the quantity of sugar manufactured in the Colony exported in the years 1890 and 1891; the value in rupees as declared at the Custom House; and the rate, calculated therefrom, per 100 kilogrammes.

Year.	Quantity exported in Kilogrammes.	Declared Value in Rupees.	Value per 100 Kilogrammes.
			Rs.
1890 - - -	128,405,938	23,483,868	18
1891 - - -	124,180,980	21,119,674	17

16. The principal markets for our sugar were:—

	1890.	1891.
	Kilos.	Kilos.
India - - - -	68,260,803	72,870,213
Australasia - - -	30,185,866	19,217,225
United Kingdom - -	14,995,667	11,858,823
Cape Colonies - - -	11,741,487	13,771,113
United States - - -	1,505,126	4,148,689
Ceylon - - - -	596,901	1,055,651

17. The value of other local products exported in 1891 was as follows:—

	Rs.
Rum - - - - -	389,926
Vanilla - - - - -	211,314
Aloe fibre - - - - -	453,530
Molasses - - - - -	94,313
Cocoa-nut oil - - - -	180,588

Shipping.

18. The following table gives the number of ships and their tonnage, entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1890 and 1891:—

Year.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1890 - - -	456	343,302	463	346,320
1891 - - -	408	300,330	396	295,311

19. Of the vessels entered inwards, 194 sailing vessels and 93 steamers were British; 32 sailing vessels and 41 steamers were French; 13 sailing vessels and 2 steamers were German; 14 sailing vessels were Norwegian; and the 19 other vessels were of American, Arabian, Austrian, Danish, Dutch, Italian, Malagasy, and Swedish nationality.

Population.

20. By the Census taken on the night of the 5th April 1891, it was ascertained that the resident population was 370,588, composed as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
General population - - -	58,639	56,129	114,668
Indo-Mauritians - - -	80,653	75,938	156,591
Other Indians - - - -	66,846	32,483	99,329
Total - - -	206,038	164,550	370,588

21 The Indo-Mauritians are persons of Indian origin born in the Colony, and are generally the offspring of parents both of whom were Indian immigrants. The other Indians are chiefly immigrants from India who have come to Mauritius under contracts of service. The general population includes all persons born in the Colony (except those of Indian parents or where the father was of Indian origin) besides Europeans, Chinese, &c., and is most easily defined as the residuum after separating the Indo-Mauritians and the other Indians.

22. The following statement will give the number of the inhabitants of the districts of the Colony according to the Census of 1881 and that of 1891 :—

Districts.	1881.	1891.
Port Louis (including Flat and Gabriel Islands) - - - - -	66,652	62,169
Pamplemousses - - - -	37,670	38,547
Rivière du Rempart - - - -	20,726	24,151
Flacq - - - - -	56,022	56,734
Grand Port - - - - -	52,982	48,169
Savanne - - - - -	34,447	34,977
Black River - - - - -	15,292	15,698
Plaines Wilhems - - - -	46,315	57,591
Moka - - - - -	29,768	32,552
Total - -	359,874	370,588

23. The births registered in 1891 were 13,878, an increase of 575 over the number registered in 1890; and the number of deaths registered in 1891 was 9,976, a decrease of 2,805 compared with 1890. The births in 1891 exceeded the deaths by 3,902.

24. The birth-rate in the total population was 37·4 and the death-rate 26·9 per thousand. The death-rate in 1890 was 34·3 per thousand.

25. The Census returns show 21 persons as being 100 years of age or more, as against 12 in 1881.

Education.

26. In 1891 there were 77 Government schools and 84 schools aided by Government grants, against 71 Government schools and 77 aided schools in 1890.

27. The average number of scholars on the roll in 1890 and 1891 was as follows:—

—	1890.	1891.	Increase.
Government Schools - - -	8,082	8,876	794
Aided Schools - - - -	7,661	8,114	453
Total - - -	15,743	6,990	1,247

28. Of the total number of pupils, 71·46 per cent. were of European, African, or Chinese descent, and 28·53 per cent. were Indians or of Indian origin. The following percentages show their religious persuasions:—

Members of Church of England -	2·97	per cent.
Roman Catholics - - -	74·16	„
Members of other Christian denominations - - - -	1·41	„
Mahomedans - - -	6·23	„
Hindoos and others - - -	15·20	„

29. The average number of pupils in the Royal College and Royal College Schools in 1890 and 1891 was as follows:—

—	1890.	1891.
Royal College proper - - -	187	193
Royal College School, Port Louis - -	140	145
Royal College School, Curepipe - -	148	189
Total - - - -	475	527

MAURITIUS. 1891.

30. The sums disbursed for educational purposes in 1891 were as follows:—

	Rs.
Royal College - - - -	171,769
Expenditure on Government schools exclusively - - - - -	152,123
Expenditure on aided schools exclusively -	94,335
Expenditure common to Government and aided schools - - - -	13,497
Industrial education - - - -	3,854
Administration - - - -	19,774
Total - - - -	Rs. 455,352
Total expenditure in 1890 - -	Rs. 422,299
Increase of expenditure in 1891 -	Rs. 33,053

31. This additional expenditure was caused by an increase in the grants to aided schools, by grants in aid to schools associated with the Royal College, by the opening of second grade Government schools on the half-time system, and by an increase to the personal emoluments of teachers in the Royal College and Government schools.

Post Office and Telegraphs.

32. The revenue collected in this Department in 1891 was Rs. 73,910, while the revenue brought to account in 1890 was Rs. 81,593. This apparent decrease is owing to the postage stamps sold at the Treasury having been credited to the item Internal Revenues in 1891, whilst in 1890 the amount was credited to the Post Office Department.

33. The letters, post cards, and newspapers which passed through the office in 1890 and 1891 were as follows:—

Year.	Letter.	Post Cards.	Newspapers.
1890 - - -	1,063,800	21,543	1,150,903
1891 - - -	1,069,994	22,414	1,194,383
Increase -	6,194	871	43,480

34. The postal money-order business showed an increase of Rs. 52,299 over that of 1890.

35. The mail services by the Messageries Maritimes Company and the British India Steam Navigation Company were continued with great regularity. A subsidy of Rs. 80,000 was paid to the Messageries Maritimes Company, and a subsidy of 3,750*l.* was paid by the Colony to the British India Steam Navigation Company, a similar sum being also paid to the Company by the Imperial Government.

Railways.

36. The revenue for 1891 was Rs. 1,597,321, an increase of Rs. 21,432 over the revenue of 1890, due to the transport of a larger quantity of goods; the expenditure in 1891 was Rs. 1,043,708, a decrease of Rs. 62,596 when compared with that of 1890, owing to the careful management of the General Manager and Engineer of Railways.

37. The works on the extension of the Moka line from Montagne Blanche Station to Rivierè Sèche Station were continued.

Immigration.

38. There were but few Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony in 1891; 656 from Calcutta and 335 from Madras; and there was also a decrease in the number of immigrants who left the Colony, there being altogether 900 against 1,054 in 1890.

39. The average cost of introduction per engaged man was Rs. 140 . 50.

40. The proportion of females to males among the immigrants who arrived in the Colony was 38 · 8 per cent., and the proportion of females to males in the departures was 25 · 7 per cent.

Poor Relief.

41. The expenditure in 1891, including establishment charges, was Rs. 249,695, while the expenditure in 1890 was set down at Rs. 409,131.

42. It had been the practice to prepare bills for the fees chargeable on account of patients sent by the Poor Law Commissioner for treatment at the Civil Hospital and the Lunatic Asylum, and for medicines supplied to poor law dispensaries and hospitals, and the amount of such bills was entered in the accounts as revenue, and figured also on the expenditure side. As this was entirely a matter of account, the practice ceased at the end of 1890. In paragraph 5 of this Report reference is made to the decrease in revenue under the head of reimbursements by the omission of sums under this head.

43. The number of patients treated in the public hospitals in 1891 was 8,158, against 10,436 in 1890. Of these 6,686 were

treated in hospitals in the rural districts, and 1,472 at the Civil Hospital in Port Louis. The total number of deaths in the several hospitals was 750, against 1 165 in 1890; and the ratio of mortality was 9 · 19 per cent., against 11 · 16 in the previous year.

44. The number of persons assisted at the Barkly Asylum in 1891 was 802, against 954 in 1890, the number remaining on the 31st December 1891 being 359. The number of deaths in the year was 43, against 67 in the previous year, and the ratio of mortality was 5 · 36 per cent,, against 7 · 02 in 1890.

45. The number of persons treated in convent hospitals and infirmaries in 1891 was 597, against 754 in 1890; the number remaining on 31st December 1891 being 254. The number of deaths in the year was 111, against 112 in 1890; and the ratio of mortality was 18 · 59 per cent,, against 14 · 85 in 1890.

46. The number of lepers maintained at St. Lazare in 1891 was 258, against 314 in 1890; the number remaining on 31st December 1891 being 168. The mortality in 1891 was 23, against 42 in 1890, and the ratio of mortality was 8 · 91 per cent., against 13 · 37 in 1890.

47. The number of lunatics treated in the lunatic asylum in 1891 was 475, against 473 in 1890; the number remaining on the 31st December 1891 being 378. The mortality in 1891 was 9, against 12 in 1890, and the ratio of mortality was 1 · 89 per cent., against 2 · 53 in 1890.

48. The number of sick people treated at the dispensaries in 1891 was 41,926, against 47,403 in 1890.

49. Out-door relief in the shape of rice and money was given to 12,935 persons in 1891, against 11,977 in 1890.

Criminal Statistics.

50. The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1891 was 32,345, against 30,085 in 1890.

Of the offences reported in 1891—

7,112 were for offences against the person.
637 „ „ prædial larceny.
5,512 „ „ offences against property other than prædial larceny.
and 19,094 „ „ other offences.

51. The total number of convictions in the inferior courts in 1891 was 17,793, against 16,173 in 1890.

These convictions are classified as follows:—

1,144 for offences against the person.
412 „ prædial larceny.
1,455 „ offences against property other than prædial larceny.
4,573 „ offences against the law relating to masters and servants.
10,209 „ other offences.

52. The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows :—

27 for offences against the person.
69 „ „ „ property.

53. The acquittals were as follows :—

In the inferior courts - - -	4,926
„ „ Supreme Court - - -	15

54. The number of persons committed to gaol in 1891 was 9,419, against 8,878 in 1890.

7 were imprisoned for debt.
1,974 „ „ nonpayment of fines and costs.
1,941 „ „ safe custody till trial, or for not furnishing security.
5,497 „ „ purposes of penal imprisonment.

The above-mentioned committals include 347 removals to the reformatory for juvenile offenders.

55. The sentences of imprisonment in 1891 were as follows :—

To three months or less - - -	4,276
To more than three months and less than one year - - - - - -	952
To one year and less than five years - -	212
To more than five years - - -	57

Meteorological Observations.

56. The mean temperature in the shade at the Observatory, which stands on a plain 178 feet above sea-level, about three miles from the West Coast, in the district of Pamplemousses, was 73 degrees, against an average of 73 · 5 for the 17 years 1875–1891 ; the absolute highest temperature being 86 degrees, on 4th February, and the lowest 55 degrees, on 1st August.

57. The rainfall for the year at the Observatory was 44 · 63 inches on 224 days, against an average of 47 · 78 inches on 203 days for the last 17 years. The wettest months were March and April, and the driest month October.

58. The rainfall for the year at the Nursery Gardens, Curepipe, in the district of Plaines Wilhems, at an elevation of 1,840 feet above sea-level was 139 · 32 inches on 288 days.

Legislation.

59. Thirty-one Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government in 1891.

60. Six of them deal with questions affecting the revenue of the Colony. Three were passed to continue in operation during 1892 Ordinances passed in previous years to impose extra taxation, so as to provide the amount necessary to make the revenue of 1892 sufficient to meet the estimated expenditure. Another Ordinance

MAURITIUS. 1891.

reduced the licence duty payable by attorneys from Rs. 150 to Rs. 60 per annum; and by another, the licence duty payable by house, land, and cattle agents was reduced from Rs. 150 to Rs. 50 per annum. The sixth was to render effective Ordinance 25 of 1890, which had imposed licence duties on certain traders.

61. By Ordinance 4 of 1891, "To provide for the prevention of Accidents in Aloe-fibre Factories," the great difficulty which persons wishing to claim compensation would otherwise have met was removed, as the party injured is not bound to prove negligence on the part of the employer, as he would have to do in an action under the code.

62. Ordinance No. 15, "To make it lawful in certain cases for "Persons on board a Ship which does not enter the Harbour to "land before such Ship is admitted to pratique," provides for the case of passengers arriving on board ships with clean bills of health and otherwise entitled to pratique, but which do not wish to communicate because of epidemic disease existing in the Colony. Before the passing of this Ordinance those passengers were either prohibited from landing, or were obliged to go to a quarantine station.

63. Ordinance No. 25, "To amend the Law relating to the "harbouring and employment of Vagrants and Deserters," was passed to render liable to penalties those who harbour or employ vagrants and deserters without having previously taken reasonable precautions to ascertain whether such persons were vagrants or deserters.

(Signed) THOMAS ELLIOTT,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

22nd August 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 92.

MAURITIUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 57.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
November 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–42.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
56	Zululand	1891
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 92.

MAURITIUS.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 57.]

Sir H. E. H. JERNINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

(Extract.) Government House, Mauritius, September 11, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Report on the Blue Book for 1892, which has been furnished by Mr. Elliott, the late Acting Colonial Secretary.

REPORT to accompany the BLUE BOOK for 1892.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue received in 1892 was Rs. 7,473,029, a decrease of Rs. 122,621 as compared with the revenue of 1891.

2. The estimated revenue of 1892 was Rs. 7,392,631, and as this amount was insufficient to meet the estimated expenditure of Rs. 7,766,555, Ordinances were passed in December 1891, continuing in force Ordinances 20, 21 and 22 of 1890 under which additional taxation had been imposed and it was estimated that the extra taxes would in 1892 produce Rs. 364,925.

3. But owing to the disastrous hurricane of 29th April 1892 the anticipated revenue was not realised. The sugar crop was so much reduced that the export duty on sugar amounted only to Rs. 319,279, while Rs. 425,000 had been anticipated. The railway receipts, owing to the reduced crop, showed a falling off of Rs. 106,679, and the excise duty on rum issued for home consumption was short by Rs. 265,651. On the other hand, the import duties produced Rs. 213,000 more than the estimate, and harbour duties showed an increase of Rs. 32,339 over estimate.

4. The estimated expenditure in 1892 was Rs. 7,766,555, and the actual expenditure was Rs. 8,024,484, an excess of Rs. 257,929 over estimate.

5. The epidemic of small-pox which commenced in 1891, continued throughout the year, and caused an expenditure of Rs. 241,536, which had not been provided for, and a sum of

I 78470. Wt. 10230.

Rs. 291,131 was spent in repairing damages to public buildings caused by the hurricane of the 29th April and in giving assistance to the sufferers therefrom. The amount provided to meet the charge on account of the Public Debt was exceeded by Rs. 108,213, the rate of exchange having risen considerably in 1892.

6. A saving of Rs. 112,502 was effected on the amount provided for the Civil Service, and through the non-execution of public works for which provision had been made in the estimates of 1892 there was a further saving of Rs. 111,912. Her Majesty's Government, in consideration of the losses inflicted on the colony by the hurricane, relieved the colony of further payments on account of the military contribution for the year 1892, and this caused a reduction of expenditure under that head of Rs. 126,213.

Assets and Liabilities.

7. The following statement shows the position of the Government accounts under the heads :—1. Of the Commissioners of Currency; 2. Of the Government Savings Bank; 3. Of the Curatelle; and 4. Of the Treasury proper.

	Assets.	Liability.	Surplus.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Commissioners of Currency -	4,425,061	3,976,265	448,796
Savings Bank - - -	3,723,306	3,332,177	391,129
Curatelle - - -	462,461	462,461	—
Treasury proper - -	8,316,114	7,391,707	924,406
Total - - -	16,926,942	15,162,610	1,764,331

Public Debt.

8. The Public Debt stood as follows on the 31st December 1892 :—

	£	s.	d.
Mauritius Railway Debentures payable 15th January, 1895, and 15th January, 1896, and bearing interest at 6 per cent. - -	161,000	0	0
Savanne Railway 4½ per cent. Debentures payable by annual drawings -	55,000	0	0
Moka Railway 4 per cent. Debentures payable by annual drawings - - -	2,600	0	0
Consolidated 4 per cent. Debentures payable by annual drawings - - -	72,100	0	0
Mauritius Inscribed Stock - - -	480,749	13	0
Poor Law Commission 5 per cent. Debentures	3,500	0	0
Total - - - - -	774,949	13	0

	£	s.	d.
9. For the redemption of the debentures and inscribed stock, the sinking fund accumulated up to 31st December, 1892, amounted to - - - - - -	161,177	18	10

Adding to this the surplus balances :—

	Rs.			
Treasury proper - -	924,406			
Savings Bank - - -	391,129			
Commissioners of Currency -	448,796			
Total - - -	1,764,331			
Which converted into sterling at Rs. 16 the £ equal - - - - -		110,270	13	8
The balance representing the debt of the Colony is - - - - -		503,501	0	6
Total - - -		774,949	13	0

Imports and Exports.

12. The trade for the year 1892 was valued at Rs. 41,751,323, against Rs. 40,785,744 in 1891; divided into—

——	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - -	16,477,341	23,401,176
Exports - - -	24,308,403	18,350,147

or, exclusive of specie and bullion—

——	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports - - -	16,433,133	15,746,116
Exports - - -	23,705,088	18,093,181

11. The large amount of Rs. 7,655,060 in specie was imported in 1892, of which Rs. 6,322,681 was received by Government on

account of the loan of 600,000*l.* guaranteed by Her Majesty's Treasury under the Mauritius Hurricane Loan Act, 1892.

12. The value of the principal imports for the years 1891 and 1892 was as follows:—

——	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Animals	302,245	310,876
Apothecaries' ware	141,929	144,446
Grain, flour, meal	5,915,858	5,469,001
Provisions	1,113,102	1,068,306
Malt liquors, wines and spirits	806,341	828,111
Cotton manufactures	917,664	1,044,591
Woollen manufactures	174,597	168,398
Haberdashery	364,170	353,559
Coal	611,934	592,496
Machinery	91,226	205,372
Iron and steel	183,269	278,845
Hardware and cutlery	406,130	447,989
Leather, wrought and unwrought	162,966	166,052
Manure and fertilizers	1,064,140	1,366,463
Oil of all kinds	696,562	569,321
Tobacco	133,890	190,169
Total	13,086,023	13,203,995

13. Adding the charges and exchange to the value of the imports given in the preceding table, the result will be as follows:—

——	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Animals	521,285	579,960
Apothecaries' ware	240,829	265,412
Grain, flour, meal	8,281,693	7,465,162
Provisions	1,744,627	1,800,806
Malt liquors, wines, and spirits	1,370,766	1,540,602
Cotton manufactures	1,420,386	1,725,123
Woollen manufactures	292,978	307,375
Haberdashery	610,864	640,473
Coal	1,620,141	1,637,284
Machinery	155,084	381,696
Iron and steel	310,385	500,097
Hardware and cutlery	688,065	828,199
Leather, wrought and unwrought	271,042	297,682
Manure and fertilizers	1,706,018	2,367,405
Oil of all kinds	1,012,135	886,050
Tobacco	212,453	311,897
Total	20,458,751	21,535,223

14. The following table shows in kilogrammes the quantity of sugar manufactured in the Colony exported in the years 1891 and 1892 :—

Year.	Quantity Exported in Kilogrammes.
1891 - - - -	124,180,980
1892 - - - -	93,091,256

15. The principal markets for our sugar were :—

	1891.	1892.
	Kilos.	Kilos.
India - - -	72,870,213	54,386,563
Australasia - - -	19,217,225	8,533,167
United Kingdom - -	11,858,823	13,982,675
Cape Colonies - - -	13,771,113	7,718,485
United States - - -	4,148,689	——
Ceylon - - - -	1,055,651	5,513,722
St. Helena - - -	47,112	2,034,749

16. The value of other local products exported in 1892 was as follows :—

Rum - - - -	303,618 Rupees.
Vanilla - - - -	169,985 „
Aloe fibre - - - -	309,653 „
Molasses - - - -	104,583 „
Cocoa-nut oil - - -	197,653 „

Shipping.

17. The following table gives the number of ships and their tonnage entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1891 and 1892 :—

Year.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1891 - - -	408	300,330	396	295,311
1892 - - -	399	327,528	398	325,742

18. Of the vessels entered inwards, 163 sailing vessels and 117 steamers were British; 30 sailing vessels and 36 steamers were French; 22 sailing vessels and 2 steamers were German; 14 sailing vessels were Norwegian; and the 15 other vessels were of American, Austrian, Belgian, Danish, Dutch, Swedish and Malagasy nationality.

Population.

19. The estimated population on the 31st December, 1892, was 374,079.

20. The births registered in 1892 were 14,985, of whom 7,596 were males and 7,389 were females. Of the total number of births, 4,367, divided into 2,180 males and 2,187 females, belonged to the general population, and 10,618, divided into 5,416 males and 5,202 females, belonged to the Indian population. The birth-rate in the total population was 40·05 per thousand.

21. The deaths registered in 1892 were 13,055, of whom 7,309 were males and 5,746 were females. Of the total number of deaths, 4,412, divided into 2,281 males and 2,131 females, belonged to the general population, and 8,643, divided into 5,028 males and 3,615 females, belonged to the Indian population.

22. There were 1,335 deaths unregistered at the Civil Status Offices. Of these 103 were deaths from small-pox, and 1,232 were persons killed in the terrible hurricane of the 29th April 1892, and whose bodies were obliged to be buried before they could be identified and the necessary formalities accomplished. These 1,232 deaths were in the following districts:—

Port Louis	674
Pamplemousses	42
Riviere-du-Rempart	8
Flacq	93
Grand Port	66
Savanne	47
Black River	16
Plaines Wilhems	60
Moka	26

23. Including the unregistered deaths the death-rate in the total population was 38·46 per thousand.

Education.

24. In 1892 there were 81 Government schools and 87 schools aided by Government grants, against 77 Government schools and 84 aided schools in 1891.

25. The average number of scholars on the roll in 1891 and 1892 was as follows:—

—	1891.	1892.	Decrease.
Government Schools - - -	8,876	8,477	399
Aided Schools - - - -	8,114	7,980	134
Total - - -	16,990	16,457	533

26. Of the total number of pupils, 73·83 per cent. were of European, African, or Chinese origin, and 26·16 per cent. were Indians or of Indian origin. The following percentages show their religious persuasions:—

Members of Church of England -	3·01 per cent.
Roman Catholics - - -	74·40 „
Members of other Christian denominations - - - -	1·62 „
Mohamedans - - -	6·07 „
Hindoos and others - - -	14·86 „

27. The average number of pupils in the Royal College and Royal College Schools in 1891 and 1892 was as follows:—

—	1891.	1892.
Royal College proper - - -	193	201
Royal College School, Port Louis - -	145	141
Royal College School, Curepipe - -	189	172
Total - - - -	527	514

MAURITIUS. 1892.

28. The sums disbursed for educational purposes in 1892 were as follows:—

	Rs.
Royal College - - - -	180,892
Expenditure on Government schools exclusively - - - - -	150,629
Expenditure on aided schools exclusively -	92,918
Expenditure common to Government and aided schools - - - -	10,520
Industrial education - - - -	2,595
Administration - - - -	19,770
Total - - - -	Rs, 457,324
Total expenditure in 1891 - -	Rs. 455,352
Increase of expenditure in 1892 -	Rs. 1,972

Post Office and Telegraphs.

29. The revenue brought to account in this Department in 1892 was Rs. 66,843, against Rs. 73,910 in 1891.

30. The letters, post-cards, and newspapers which passed through the office in 1891 and 1892 were as follows:—

Year.	Letters.	Post Cards.	Newspapers.
1891 - - -	1,069,994	22,414	1,194,383
1892 - - -	1,126,254	24,447	1,261,584
Increase -	56,260	2,033	67,201

31. The postal money-order business, foreign and inland, showed an increase of Rs. 42,808 over that of 1891.

32. The following subsidies were paid to ocean mail packets:—Rs. 80,000 to the Messageries Maritimes Company, and 3,750*l.* to the British India Steam Navigation Company, a similar sum being also paid to the Company by the Imperial Government.

Railways.

33. The railway revenue and expenditure for the years 1891 and 1892 were as follows:—

—	1891.	1892.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue - - - -	1,597,321	1,490,642	106,679
Expenditure - - -	1,043,708	984,025	59,683

The decrease in the revenue is under the item "conveyance of goods," and is due to the reduction in the crop of 1892 caused by the hurricane of the 29th April 1892.

Immigration.

34. There was no immigration of Indian labourers in 1892. The number that left the Colony in 1892 was 1,478, of whom 1,129 were males and 349 females. The amount of money carried away by the departing Indians, as declared by them, was Rs. 35,224, and the average amount per statute adult (exclusive of paupers) was Rs. 81.

35. The amount standing to the credit of the Indian population at the Government Savings Bank on the 31st December 1892 was Rs. 1,526,429 possessed by 10,002 persons classified as follows:—

235 new immigrants.
6,055 old „
1,063 passengers.
2,619 Indo-Mauritians.

36. The Indian population on sugar estates on the 30th June 1892 was 116,503, of whom 52,247 were labourers.

Poor Relief.

37. The expenditure under this head in 1892, including establishment charges, was Rs. 231,186, showing a diminution of Rs. 18,509 on the expenditure under the same head in 1891.

38. The number of patients treated in the public hospitals in 1892 was 11,231, against 8,158 in 1891. Of these 8,630 were treated in hospitals in the rural districts, and 2,601 at the Civil Hospital in Port Louis. The total number of deaths in the several hospitals was 1,175, against 750 in 1891; and the ratio of mortality was 10·46 per cent., against 9·19 in the previous year.

39. The number of persons assisted at the Barkly Asylum in 1892 was 803, against 802 in 1891, the number remaining on the 31st December 1892 being 358. The number of deaths in the year was 33, against 43 in the previous year, and the ratio of mortality was 4·10 per cent., against 5·36 in 1891.

40. The number of lepers maintained at St. Lazare in 1892 was 290, against 258 in 1891; the number remaining on the 31st December 1892 being 171. The mortality in 1892 was 37, against 23 in 1891, and the ratio of mortality was 12·75 per cent., against 8·91 in the previous year.

41. The number of persons maintained in the convent hospitals and infirmaries in 1892 was 667, against 597 in 1891; the number remaining on the 31st December 1892 being 238. The number of deaths in the year was 129, against 111 in 1891; and the ratio of mortality was 19·34 per cent., against 18·59 in 1891.

42. Of the insane patients treated at the Government Lunatic Asylum 483 were at the cost of the Poor Law Commission.

43. The number of pauper orphans maintained in 1892 by the Poor Law Commission was 165, of whom 51 were males and 114 females.

44. The number of sick people treated at the dispensaries in 1892 was 57,961, against 41,926 in 1891, showing an increase of 16,035.

45. Out-door relief in the shape of rice and money was given in 1892 to 3,018 persons, 631 being males and 2,387 females.

Criminal Statistics.

46. The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1892 was 30,539, against 32,345 in 1891.

Of the offences reported in 1892

6,721 were for offences against the person.
789 „ „ prædial larceny.
5,274 „ „ offences against property other than prædial larceny.
and 17,755 „ „ other offences.

47. The total number of convictions in the inferior courts in 1892 was 17,440, against 17,793 in 1891.

These convictions are classified as follows:—

965 for offences against the person.
482 „ prædial larceny.
1,674 „ offences against property other than prædial larceny.
4,180 „ offences against the law relating to masters and servants.
10,139 „ other offences.

48. The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows:—

28 for offences against the person.
66 „ „ „ property.

49. The acquittals were as follows:—

In the inferior courts - - -	4,622
„ „ Supreme Court - - -	15

50. The number of persons committed to gaol in 1892 was 9,452, against 9,419 in 1891.

5 were imprisoned for debt.
2,287 „ „ nonpayment of fines and costs.
2,027 „ „ safe custody till trial, or for not furnishing security.
5,133 „ „ purposes of penal imprisonment.

The above-mentioned committals include 382 removals to the reformatory for juvenile offenders.

51. The sentences of imprisonment in 1892 were as follows:—

To three months or less - - -	4,364
To more than three months and less than one year - - - - - -	576
To one year or more, and less than five years -	160
To five years or more - - - -	33

Meteorological Observations.

52. The mean temperature in the shade at the Observatory, which stands on a plain 178 feet above sea-level, about three miles from the West Coast, in the district of Pamplemousses, was 74°·1, against an average of 73°·6 for the 18 years (1875–1892); the highestt emperature being 85°·7 on the 12th January, and the lowest 58°·8 on the 27th July.

53. The rainfall for the year at the Observatory was 59·12 inches on 221 days, against an average of 48·41 inches on 204 days for the last 18 years. The greatest fall in 24 hours was 7·32 inches on February 13. The wettest months were January, February, and March, and the driest month was September.

54. The rainfall for the year at the Nursery Gardens, Curepipe, in the district of Plaines Wilhems, at an elevation of 1,840 feet above the sea-level, was 154·78 inches on 342 days, against an average of 130·10 inches on 262 days. On February 13th, at 6.30 a.m., the receptacle of the rain gauge was found overflowing.

55. The centre of a violent cyclone passed over the island on the 29th April. The lowest reading of the barometer was 27·956 inches, and the maximum velocity of the wind for five minutes, from 46 minutes past 3 to 51 minutes past 3 in the afternoon, at the rate of 121·2 miles per hour; but the greatest average hourly velocity was 103·3 miles from 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.

56. This cyclone of the 29th April 1892 has been unprecedented in Mauritius with regard to time of year, direction and force of wind, and the suddenness, rapidity, and extent of the changes which took place. Nearly all the loss of life and property occurred in less than two hours.

MAURITIUS. 1892.

Legislation.

57. Thirty-one Ordinances were passed by the Council of Government in 1892.

58. Eight of them were occasioned by the necessities created by the hurricane of the 29th April.

59. The first was passed six days after the hurricane "to make "provision for enabling land owners who are employers of labour "to obtain provisions for men and cattle on their estates with the "guarantee of Government," as it was thought that difficulties might be experienced by some in obtaining the necessary supply of provisions for their labourers. The second, passed on the same day, authorised the Governor to grant to persons whose houses had been destroyed or damaged by the hurricane permission to remove trees from certain Crown Lands and Pas Geometriques for rebuilding or repairing their houses. The third, also passed on the same day, as a means of relieving fishermen and others, who had suffered much from the hurricane, made it lawful to fish with nets for one month in the bays and creeks in which fishing with nets was prohibited by the fishery law, and which reserves were consequently well stocked with fish.

60. A committee of the Council of Government having recommended that a loan of 600,000*l.* be raised by the colony to meet the wants and necessities created by the hurricane and to provide funds for certain public works, Ordinance No. 4 of 1892 was passed. Her Majesty's Government decided to invite Parliament to guarantee the loan of 600,000*l.* proposed to be raised by the above Ordinance, and by the Mauritius Hurricane Loan Act, 1892, Her Majesty's Treasury was empowered to guarantee it. As further legislation was necessary to carry out the provisions of the Loan Act, Ordinance No. 12 of 1892 was accordingly passed.

61. Ordinance No. 5 of 1892 was passed to empower Stipendiary Magistrates to modify Contracts of Service with the consent of the parties thereto. The object of this Ordinance was to allow immigrants under engagement to accept a lower rate of wages on estates so damaged by the hurricane that the owners found themselves unable to continue paying the wages they had contracted to give.

62. As it had been necessary to take measures for the immediate burial of many persons who had been killed or who had died from the injuries received during the hurricane, and it had not been possible to obtain regular permits of burial or otherwise comply with the formalities required by the Civil Status Ordinance, an Ordinance was passed to legalise the orders on this subject given by the Officer Administering the Government.

63. The last of the eight Ordinances referred to above was passed to empower the Governor to remit college fees in certain

cases, for some persons had been rendered so destitute by the hurricane that they were unable to pay the college fees, and had been obliged to withdraw their boys from the Royal College.

64. Two Ordinances deal with questions affecting the revenue of the Colony. One was passed to continue in force during the year 1893 the Ordinance authorising the levying of a stamp duty on receipts; and the other continued in operation for the year 1893 Ordinance No. 20 of 1890, by which a surcharge of 10 per cent. was imposed on certain duties and taxes, and it also increased the import duties for the year 1893 on the goods mentioned in it.

65. Ordinance No. 28 of 1892 was passed to amend and consolidate the laws regulating the working of the Customs, the draft of which had been prepared by a Commission appointed in 1888 by the Officer Administering the Government for the purpose of examining and reporting upon the Customs laws of the Colony, a general system of drawbacks, and the removal of the export duty on sugar.

(Signed) THOMAS ELLIOTT,
September 1, 1893. Acting Colonial Secretary.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 61.

NATAL.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891-2.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.-11.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
28	Gambia	1890
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	"
51	Leeward Island	"
52	Grenada	"
53	St. Lucia	"
54	Labuan	"
55	British Guiana	"
56	Zululand	"
57	Mauritius	"
58	Lagos	"
59	Straits Settlements	"
60	Ceylon	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 61.

NATAL.

Sir C. B. H. MITCHELL to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Pietermaritzburg,
MY LORD, Natal, October 8, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891–2, together with a Report upon it which has been drawn up by the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. B. H. MITCHELL.

The Right Hon. the Secretary of State,
&c. &c. &c.

NATAL.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1891–2 (ending 30th June, 1892).

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The total actual revenue for the year 1891–2 was 1,392,455*l.* as compared with 1,318,769*l.* for the preceding twelve months, thus showing a net increase of 73,686*l.*

I 74180. Wt. 10230.

2. The following formed the principal sources of revenue:—

Heads of Revenue.	Receipts for		Increase.	Decrease.
	1891-2.	1890-1.		
	£	£	£	£
Railways - - -	665,336	660,167	5,169	—
Customs - - -	301,180	273,915	27,265	—
Native Hut Tax - -	80,378	77,075	3,303	—
Land Sales - - -	46,499	44,216	2,283	—
Mail Service - - -	48,465	41,338	7,127	—
Interest - - -	24,655	12,143	12,512	—
Stamps - - - -	24,012	24,774	—	763
Fines and fees of court -	21,794	18,196	3,598	—
Wharf Dues - - -	21,983	19,941	2,042	—
Port and Harbour Dues -	16,433	13,824	2,609	—
Telegraphs - - -	14,946	15,446	—	500
Transfer Dues - - -	12,445	16,214	—	3,769
Dog Tax - - -	11,005	10,397	608	—

Under three only of the foregoing heads has there been a falling off as compared with the previous year.

3. The ordinary expenditure for the year was 1,280,965*l.* as compared with 1,393,896*l.* for 1890–1, a reduction of 112,931*l.*

4. The largest items of expenditure were the following:—

	£
Railway traffic payments - - -	489,253
Interest on public debt - - -	294,192
Establishments—salaries - - -	161,037

A saving of 130,525*l.* was effected in the working of the Railway Department as compared with the expenditure of the previous year under this head.

5. Expenditure under Loan Funds during the year was as follows:—

	£
Public works - - - -	168,130
Harbour works - - - -	132,500
Railway extension - - -	443,687
Expenses connected with raising Loans	20
Total - - -	£744,337

6. The Public Debt of the Colony on the 30th June, 1892, was 7,170,354*l.* Further borrowing to the extent of 890,000*l.* is authorised by Law 29, 1890; but as yet this balance of loan has not been placed in the market.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

Imports.

7. The value of goods imported into Natal by sea during the year ended 30th June, 1892, was 3,690,734*l.* as against 3,620,809*l.* for the previous twelve months—an increase in round figures of 70,000*l.*

8. The chief articles imported were the following, the values being shown for two years:—

Imports.	1891–2.	1890–1.
	£	£
Agricultural implements	21,948	20,865
Ale and beer	49,802	52,245
Apparel and slops	359,984	269,294
Apothecary ware	136,639	70,520
Bags, empty	41,602	13,846
Cabinet and upholstery ware	61,906	56,410
Coffee	101,394	104,187
Cottons, manufactured	79,485	61,761
Blankets and sheets	27,407	20,425
Flour, meal, and bran	167,165	106,010
Glass and glassware	26,796	24,463
Haberdashery and millinery	308,757	270,720
Hosiery	28,810	22,096
Iron of all sorts	182,439	167,172
Ironmongery	208,659	182,080
Leather, manufactured	152,538	142,881
Machinery	126,492	87,189
Oilman's stores	103,426	106,316
Oils of all kinds	65,471	36,131
Preserved provisions and fruits, &c.	72,281	67,084
Plate and jewellery	19,182	17,753
Rice	65,128	55,200
Saddlery and harness	23,036	40,690
Soap	27,987	22,767
Spirits of all kinds	104,196	76,472
Stationery	47,811	36,376
Tea	11,359	15,865
Turnery and fancy ware	29,186	36,832
Woollen manufactures	18,492	18,580
„ Blankets and Rugs	77,920	92,933
Wine in bottle	15,940	12,204

NATAL. 1891–2.

The increased use of tea grown in Natal, and the establishment of a Natal brewery have caused a diminution in the Imports of tea, and ale and beer.

9. The trade with the United Kingdom showed a slight falling off as compared with the preceding year, as appears from the following figures :—

	1891–2.	1890–1.
	£	£
Imports from United Kingdom - -	2,836,218	2,885,571
„ „ the Colonies and India - -	391,931	290,009
„ „ Foreign Countries - -	462,585	445,229
Total Imports -	3,690,734	3,620,809

10. The Customs Revenue for the year, as already stated, was 301,180*l.* as against 273,915*l.* for 1890–1.

Exports.

11. The total value of Exports was as follows :—

	1891–2.	1890–1.
	£	£
Exported by sea - - - -	1,184,118	1,218,413
„ overland in transit - - -	192,967	97,212*
Total -	1,377,085	1,315,625

* No record of values of goods in transit was kept prior to 1st January, 1891.

12. The following is a comparison for 1891–2 and 1890–1 of the values of the principal articles exported by sea :—

Articles.	1891–2.	1890–1.
	£	£
Wool - - - - - -	612,604	735,067
Raw gold - - - - -	218,683	173,283
Sugar, unrefined - - - -	67,402	14,057

Articles.	1891-2.	1890-1.
	£	£
Coal	49,275	21,599
Hides, ox and cow	40,629	47,456
Skins, calf, sheep, and goat	27,152	13,372
Hair Angora	15,279	18,158
Horns, ox or cow	2,630	2,103
Maize	14,501	9,908
Bark (wattle)	9,243	5,588
Ores—Lead	8,225	1,627
Quartz	5,216	1,574
Silver	3,099	7,541
Iron	1,305	—
Spirits, rum	4,367	3,927
Flour, meal, bran	2,401	4,051
Fruit, fresh	2,175	1,210
Tea	1,932	419

The falling off in the value of wool exported is accounted for to some extent by the fact that farmers have been storing their wool in preference to selling at the low rates which have ruled of late; there has evidently also been some diversion of wool to other ports. The increase in the exports of coal, bark, tea, and fresh fruit are indicative of the progress of comparatively new industries.

13. The increase of goods exported to Inland States in transit is marked. By the term "in transit" is meant that certain classes of goods are allowed to be imported and sent beyond the borders of the colony under bond, a low rate of Customs duty being charged in lieu of the rate under the ordinary tariff of the Colony. The transit trade forms, of course, a portion only of the commerce with the adjacent territories. The transit trade for 1891-2 was apportioned as follows:—

	£
South African Republic	172,071
Orange Free State	14,250
Griqualand East	2,114
Pondoland	4,488
Swaziland	44
	£192,967

NATAL. 1891–2.

SHIPPING.

14. The following is a summary of the shipping that entered inwards at Port Natal during 1891–2 as compared with the twelve months immediately preceding:—

Year.	Sailing ships.		Steam ships.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1891-2 - -	135	55,452	408	509,972	543	565,424
1890-1 - -	137	48,134	357	450,176	494	498,310
Increase - -	—	7,318	51	59,796	49	67,114
Decrease - -	2	—	—	—	—	—

RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC WORKS.

Railways.

15. The number of miles of railway open in Natal for traffic on the 30th June, 1892, was 375½. The opening of Laings Nek Tunnel on the 14th October, 1891, completed the final section of the main line from the port to the border of the South African Republic at Charlestown. The railway line from Ladysmith to the border of the Orange Free State at Van Reenen's Pass, a length of 36 miles, was opened for passenger traffic on the 19th November, 1891, and the extension (23½ miles) of the line to Harrismith in the Orange Free State, carried out by the Natal Government under a Convention with the Government of that State, was completed by the end of June, 1892, the opening of the section for general traffic taking place on the 13th of July. The survey of a line from Harrismith to a point of junction on the Orange Free State line between the Sand and Valsch Rivers was completed during the year.

Public Works.

16. The most important undertakings completed during the year by the Public Works Department includes two lighthouses for the Aliwal Shoal, a bridge over the Umzimkula at Hancock's Drift, a bridge over the Umgeni at McArthur's Drift, and works for water supply at Charlestown. Extensive additions to the Durban hospital were also in progress.

Harbour Works.

17. The south breakwater has reached a total length of 2,585 feet and the north pier a length of about 3,700 feet; the breakwater overlaps the north pier by about 900 feet, and extension of both these works was suspended during the year, it being desirable that before proceeding with further extensions the effect

of the piers as they now stand should be carefully watched. Dredging operations have been carried on by five dredgers of both the bucket and the suction type, and much improvement has been effected as regards navigation.

18. The wharfage at the port now reaches a total length of 2,640 feet, and facility for future wharf extension is afforded by the considerable area of land reclaimed. A wharf shed of 400 feet in length by 100 feet in breadth has recently been added to the former shed accommodation. The electric lighting of the port has been found of much convenience, and some increase of that lighting is contemplated.

19. The average depth of water on the Bar at low water of ordinary spring tides for the last ten years was as follows:—

Year.	ft.	in.
1882	6	1
1883	6	1½
1884	7	2
1885	8	4
1886	8	3¾
1887	10	7
1888	11	6¾
1889	11	4½
1890	10	1
1891	10	9
1892 (1st six months only)	13	8

This improvement of depth bears witness to the value of the works carried out for the improvement of the entrance to the harbour. Large vessels are now able to come inside, as will be seen from the following return of the largest vessels which have recently crossed the Bar inward at Port Natal:—

Year.	Ship.	Gross Tonnage.	Length.	Draught on entering.
			ft, in.	ft. in.
1890	Congella	1,585	255 0	16 3
„	Clan Forbes	2,441	324 5	14 10
„	Clan Cameron	2,433	324 5	14 5½
1891	Clan Macdonald	2,642	335 5	16 0
„	Serica	2,652	321 5	16 10
„	Tasso	2,994	320 3	14 6
„	Ifafa	1,751	270 2	17 0½
„	Umono	2,031	281 5	18 0
1892 (first six months)	Dunrobin Castle	2,783	342 3	17 8
	Lucina	2,610	297 0	19 9
	Strathesk	2,271	290 9	19 4

MINES.

20. Of the mineral products of the Colony, coal must be regarded as the most important. The coal fields are connected by railway with the port, and comprise seams of good thickness extending over a large area, the quality of the coal comparing favourably with the best imported English and Welsh coals. During the 12 months under report 120,000 tons were raised, one half of which was exported. The market for Natal coal is rapidly increasing, and with the view of meeting the increased demand several new collieries are commencing work. Natal's coal industry is a valuable one, and bids fair to prove a leading factor in the future welfare of the Colony.

21. Gold is still being mined in the Umsinga and Umzinto Districts in small but appreciable quantity. Further capital is, however, needed for the proper development and working of the gold deposits in these localities.

22. The value of the iron ore so abundantly found in the upper districts of the Colony has been proved, and is beginning to attract attention. There is some reason to believe that before long, iron and steel works will be established in the Newcastle Division, in proximity to the railway and the coal mines.

AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

23. The year under report has been a fairly prosperous one for stock farmers, and good prices have been generally realized. Sheep farming is increasing, but the abnormally low price of wool has had a depressing effect. According to the returns the yield of sugar for the year was very good, and a large increase upon that for the preceding year. A large proportion of the sugar manufactured is consumed in the Colony or sent across the inland borders. In addition to this, the export by sea for 1891–2 was 111,705 cwts. as against 21,962 cwts. for 1890–1; 251,940 proof gallons of rum were distilled as compared with 153,360 gallons in 1890–1. Tea continues to be largely grown in the coast districts, chiefly in Victoria county and the Lower Umzimkulu Division. The area under cultivation may be put down at about 2,200 acres. The crop for the past season was about 350,000 lbs., and that for the ensuing season is expected to reach 500,000 lbs. The quantity of tea exported by sea during the year was 43,633 lbs. Coffee cultivation is successfully carried on in the coast districts, though not to a large extent. Coffee does not figure conspicuously among the Colony's exports, the local demand being greater than the supply. The planting of trees is extending, and attention is being more particularly given to the cultivation of the acacia mollissima, the bark of which is a valuable tanning product.

24. Concurrently with the progress of the Colony in other directions may be noticed the advances which have been made in the promotion of certain industries which have for their

object the turning to account of some of the chief natural products of the country. Manufactories for the production of leather and of woollen materials have been established, and are working with success. Other manufactures, such as those of lime, cement, and hemp deserve some notice.

IMMIGRATION.

25. The number of Indian immigrants brought into Natal during the year was 3,183; these Indians compare very favourably in physique and general health with those introduced in previous years. During the same period 774 Indians returned to India, taking with them savings in cash and jewellery amounting to 13,387*l.*

26. The work of the European Immigration Department has been confined to the introduction of nominated immigrants by assisted passages, the number so introduced during the year being 581 souls, and to the general supervision of existing agricultural settlements which continue to prosper fairly well. Further work is being deferred pending the report of a Commission appointed by the Governor to consider the whole question of European immigration.

POPULATION.

27. The statistics given below are from the census, taken on the 5th April, 1891, except in the case of the native population which is from an approximate return, prepared at the time of the census, and based upon the total number of huts in the Colony after an enumeration of the inmates of a certain number of huts in each division :—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Persons of all nationalities exclusive of Indians and Natives - - -	25,787	21,001	46,788
Indians not under indenture - -	18,340	12,053	30,393
Indians under indenture - -	7,346	3,403	10,749
Natives - - - - -	216,589	239,394	455,983
Total - -	268,062	275,851	543,913

The figures given in the Blue Book show a small increase in the total population (about 12,000), the returns having been prepared to the 30th June last.

(Signed) C. BIRD,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Natal,
October 10, 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 67.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 34.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 1893.

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1893.

[C.—6857.–17.]

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ANNUAL.

No	Colony.	Year.
31	Lagos	1889
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 67.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 34.)

Sir TERENCE O'BRIEN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, St. John's,
December 26, 1892.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

IN forwarding for your Lordship's information the Blue Book returns for 1891, as well as the Colonial Secretary's Report thereon, I find there is little calling for special remarks by me beyond that, while I fully agree with Mr. Bond as to the detrimental effect on our trade of the markets of the United States being closed to us, through the action of Canada, I do not consider the falling off of the Lobster Fishery to be so much due to the action of the Treaties with France, though of course it had its influence, as to over-fishing, as I have been assured by some of our naval officers that, whereas three years ago on the treaty shore from two to three of these creatures sufficed to fill a tin, it now takes five or six or even more to do so, thus rendering the efforts of our Fishery Commission in artificial propagation of this crustacea a matter of paramount importance to this Colony.

I much regret that among our losses through the fire in St. John's of July last, so much of the information for the census, then in an advanced state of preparation, should have been lost, a fact which, as I have already had occasion to report to you, my Lord, will, I fear, necessarily considerably delay the submission of these statistics to the Colonial Office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. O'BRIEN, Lieut.-Colonel,
Governo

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891, for transmission to Her Majesty's Imperial Government.

I 74970. Wt. 10230.

NEWFOUNDLAND. 1891.

In connexion therewith, I have the honour to acquaint you with regard to—

THE GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY,

that during the year under consideration the circumstances of our people were most prosperous. The exports from the Colony touched the highest point reached since 1881, and exceeded those of 1890 by over a million and a quarter of dollars. The imports were also in excess. $500,000 more was expended in 1891 than in 1890 in purchasing those articles of foreign production required by our population.

The increase above referred to in the value of exports is greatest in the following articles :—

	Quintals.
Dry Codfish, 1890 - - -	1,040,916
„ „ 1891 - - -	1,244,834
Increase - - -	203,918

	$
Value, 1890 - - - -	3,886,898
„ 1891 - - - -	4,864,525
Increase - - -	977,627

and in seal skins and seal oil, the result of the seal fishery being in 1890 valued at $556,426, and in 1891 at $780,807, an increase of $224,381. The above figures include imports direct to and exports from the Labrador.

It will be observed, in connexion with the exports of the Colony for 1891, that with the exception of the two articles above mentioned, and the product of our mines, which is dealt with below, the quantity of all the other articles of commerce exported from the Colony in 1891, falls below that of the same articles exported in 1890. In that year copper (green, regulus, and ingots), iron pyrites and antimony ore was exported to the value of $300,300. In 1891 the export of the same articles realized $626,000. Copper shows an increased production valued at $339,058, while antimony and iron pyrites on the other hand evidence a reduction, the one of $200 and the other of $14,415. $1,250 worth of selenite was exported in 1891. The output of our mines being thus more than double that of 1890.

Deposits in the Savings Bank in 1891 were greater than in 1890, the excess amounting to the sum of $168,607.34. I may mention that the increase of 1890 over 1889 was $107,303.38.

I have again much pleasure in calling attention to the entire absence of expenditure under the head of able-bodied pauper relief. The remunerative result of our industries, *i.e.*, fishing, mining, lumbering, together with the employment given on

railway construction has no doubt brought about this desirable state of affairs. At no former period has the Colony exhibited a more prosperous condition.

FINANCE.

The Revenue of the Colony for 1891 was $820,205.80, exclusive of loans, an increase of $365,669.42, which is accounted for, roughly, as follows, Customs increase, 1891, $82,349. Interest on debt due by Municipal Council (an amount which was the result of several years non-payment of the yearly interest due) $68,556. Purchase by the contractors of the work done and materials owned by the Government on Hall's Bay Railway prior to effecting the contract, $196,856. Profit on issue of new coin, $9,113. Insurance on Poor Asylum, paid into Treasury as a repayment, $8,000.

In 1890 the gross Customs receipts amounted to $1,342,100, in 1891 they reached $1,424,449.

Public Debt.

By way of loan to the Colony on account of St. John's Municipal Council, the sum of $143,135.06 was received, the residue of the loan under Act 54 Vict. c. 7, viz., $9,934.48 was applied to the payment of Board of Works overdrafts which had been lying over from 1889. This loan, which amounted in all to $153,069.54, was raised entirely in the Colony at 4 per cent. In speaking of addition to the capital account of the Colony, it will be necessary to note that under the contract for the construction of the Hall's Bay Railway payment is made to the contractors for each section of five miles completed, in Bonds of the Colony, bearing interest at 3½ per cent. In 1891 railway construction cost $1,014,000 and this, with the above-mentioned loan of $153,069.54, together with $18,096.34 on account of Rebuilding Acts, making in all the sum of $1,185,165.88, has been added to the funded Public Debt of the Colony which, standing at the close of 1890 at $4,138,627 amounted on the 31st December 1891 to $5,223,363.71, the sum of $100,429.66, accumulated profits at the Savings Bank for the last five years, and which the Act provides shall be applied to the reduction of the Public Debt, having been applied to the purpose specified.

To this funded debt must be added the following floating debt, *i.e.*, balance due by the Colony on current account 1891, $212,667.83. Temporary loan due London Westminster Bank, $664,800, making the total indebtedness of the Colony on the 31st December 1891 equal to $6,100,831.54. It is only fair, however, to deduct from this the amount due by the St. John's Municipal Council, *i.e.*, $850,984.54, which is guaranteed by the Newfoundland Government. The net debt would thus be $5,249,847, or about 26 dollars per head of our population. To represent this indebtedness there are 92 miles of railway completed and in

NEWFOUNDLAND 1891.

operation, 907 miles of telegraph, more than 600 miles of main roads, 39 lighthouses, and five fog alarms, besides the public buildings.

The expenditure for 1891 was $1,831,432.43 including payments on account of the loan of $153,069.54 which was applied to the services indicated by the Act. The more important heads of expenditure being Customs $76,800, Education (Vote) $140,900, Protection Fisheries $54,780, Lighthouse maintenance $43,830, interest on Public Debt $235,950, Judicial and Police $127,460, relief of poor $217,867, postal $64,133, railway subsidy $50,644, roads, &c. $122,834, steam communication $138,835.

TRADE.

In the early part of the year a remarkably good seal fishery inaugurated a most successful season's trade. Business, which last year showed the first movements of a favourable reaction, received an impetus from the exceptionally good results of this fishery. A Labrador catch surpassing in quantity anything experienced for the last 20 or 25 years, and a general prosperity in other industries, kept up and further increased the activity in trade and commerce.

Produce to the amount of $7,437,158 was exported from the Colony in 1891 as against $6,099,686 in 1890, an increase of $1,337,472. Partial details of these have already been given and they will be more fully enlarged upon under the heads of fisheries and mining, &c. Of importations it is to be said that, though like the exportations, they have increased, yet the increase has not been so great. In 1890 the figures were $6,368,855, in 1891 $6,869,458, an increase of $500,603.

In 1891 we imported from Great Britain $2,341,706 worth of goods and exported thereto $1,966,581 worth of produce, an increase over 1890 of $167,182 and $452,450 respectively.

British Colonies—Imports therefrom, 1891, $2,830,441, exports thereto $1,428,558, an increase of $44,904 of the one and $180,872 of the other. Foreign countries—Imports therefrom, 1891, $1,697,311, exports thereto, 1891, $4,042,019, an increase of $288,577 and $704,150 respectively. With regard to details of imports, an increase will be noted in connexion with the following: flour (49,697 barrels), dried fruit (188,845 lbs.), kerosine oil (47,306 gals.), tea (19,867 lbs.), sugars (6,833 cwt.), o bacco (106,007 lbs.).

SHIPPING.

I am unfortunately unable to supply your Excellency with any information as to the movements of shipping in the Colony for the year 1891, all record books, MS. and printed, having been destroyed in the great fire of July 8th. A statement was, however, I think, furnished to the Board of Trade for inclusion in the Abstract. This was compiled before the fire and whilst the shipping accounts were in process of being printed.

In 1890 the total number of ships, &c. registered in the Colony was 2,207, measuring 98,619 tons. In 1891 the figures were respectively 2,222 and 94,583, an increase in number, but a decrease in tonnage.

LEGISLATION.

Special attention may be called to some of the more important Acts passed during the Session of 1891.

The Postal Service Act, while enacting certain new legislation relative to the Postal Service, consolidates all former Acts passed with regard to this Department. Generally speaking it may be said that the Act assimilates the conduct of the Post Office Department of Newfoundland to that of Great Britain and of Canada.

Municipal Act.

St. John's Municipal Act makes the term of the Council's office three years instead of two, enlarges the franchise, gives plenary powers to the Council respecting matters affecting health and safety of inhabitants and construction and alteration of streets, side-walks, markets, &c. also to impose certain taxes.

Railway Purchase Act authorises the raising of a loan to purchase the Newfoundland Railway.

Newfoundland French Treaties Act.

This Act, after reciting the various treaties and the Modus Vivendi affecting the fisheries, declares that any Act done by Her Majesty's Officers in carrying out Her Majesty's orders for giving effect to treaty rights or to the Modus Vivendi, shall be lawful, and that parties refusing to obey lawful orders from Her Majesty's Officers, shall be liable to a fine of $200.

Acts were also passed having reference to masters and servants, shipping, registration of births, &c., education, game, &c. These and the Acts more particularly referred to above will be more fully reported upon by H.M. Attorney General when submitting the printed copies.

EDUCATION.

Under this head I have very little to report beyond the increased Legislative Grant of $20,000 to be applied as a bonus to teachers according to their grade; this grant, it is purposed, shall be continued yearly and it will doubtless prove of great help to a slenderly paid but exceedingly efficient body. As compared with 1890 there was an increase in the number of schools open and also in the attendance. In 1890 there were 545 schools open with an attendance of 31,822. In 1891 the figures were 552 and 33,094 respectively. The total expenditure under Legislative Grant was, in 1890, $134,376, and the amount actually expended, including,

NEWFOUNDLAND. 1891.

in addition to the above grant, fees and voluntary contributions, was $145,889.

FISHERIES.

With regard to this, the first and by far the most important of our industries, I am able to announce a most successful issue of last year's labours. The catch of Labrador, while not quite equal to that of last year, was, nevertheless, much above the average. The result of the shore voyage surpassed that of 1890. Unfortunately there was a serious falling off in the bank fishery, a failure only in part compensated for by an improved cure and a consequent increase in value. An important factor, affecting as it does the price realized by our staple product, is the proper cure thereof, and in this particular I am able to state that within the last two years a marked improvement has taken place. In 1891 the same good cure generally obtained. I regret to say, however, that much remains to be done in this respect if we desire to compete successfully with the clean and carefully prepared fish placed upon foreign markets by our Norwegian and French competitors. As to prices realized, I am unable to report satisfactorily. A variety of causes operated to keep these at an unusually low level. In the Brazil markets we were met by the unsettled state of the country and a consequent depreciation in the exchange. The same may be said of Portugal. In Spain the large stocks of French and Norwegian fish placed upon the market operated against the realization of quick sales, while the opening of the Italian market to a French-caught and bounty-fed article materially reduced our prospects of securing profitable prices. With regard to quantities it will be observed that the quantity of dry codfish exported in 1890 amounted to 1,040,916 quintals, valued at $3,866,898, as against 1,244,834 quintals in 1891, valued at $4,864,525 an increase of 203,918 quintals, valued at $977,627. In connexion with this we note that though the production of 1891 was larger than that of 1890 the total value was nevertheless not in proportion to this increase, codfish realizing an average price of $4.30 per quintal in 1890 while in 1891 the average was only $3·97.

A short catch of lobsters was experienced, due primarily to complications on the Treaties Shore, which have to a great extent interfered with the fuller prosecution of this fishery on that portion of the Newfoundland coast where the French have assumed certain rights. Yet another reason may be given—the rules and regulations of the Fisheries Commission (legalized by the legislature) by establishing a close season, have doubtless considerably interfered with this industry; this will, however, be but temporary, and will eventually lead to the conservation of a fishery which would, in a short time, had no such protection been afforded, been entirely ruined from over-fishing.

The seal fishery for 1891 was unusually successful, the catch being 364,981 seals, yielding 4,478 tons of oil, as against 335,685.

seals and 3,734 tons of oil in 1890. An increase in the price of oil, and an enhanced value for the skins, further contributed to the success of this industry, the total value of which realised in 1890 $556,426, and in 1891 $780,807, an increase of $224,381.

With regard to the minor fisheries, I may state, generally, that the catch of salmon was slightly below the average, and that of herring, if we except those taken for freezing purposes, almost a blank.

I have referred to the fishery prosecution in Fortune and Placentia Bays, for exportation of herring to the United States in a frozen condition, as being an exception to the general rule as regards the failure of this fishery in 1891. I may state, however, that while not a failure to that extent noticeable in the Labrador and shore catch, its results cannot be looked upon as altogether satisfactory. This was mainly due, not so much to a shortage in the take, as to the exceptionally mild weather experienced during the few months the fishery lasts, and to this must be added the ill effects caused by the differential tax levied againt Newfoundland—caught herrings in the markets of the United States, and which it was hoped would have been removed by the ratification, by Her Majesty's Government, of the Convention of 1890.

SHIPBUILDING.

As in 1890, so in 1891, the mildness of the winter operated most injuriously to the industry of shipbuilding, and I have to record an unusually small number of ships constructed. In 1889 100 ships, with a tonnage of 44,080 tons, were built ; in 1890, 48, with a tonnage of 1,896 tons, while in 1891 the numbers were 51 and 1,609 respectively.

LUMBERING.

It affords me much satisfaction to record the continual prosperity of this industry. In 1891 1,431 M. feet, of the very best quality of lumber, chiefly deals, was exported to Great Britain, as against 1,329 M. feet in 1890. Further than this, the quantity of lumber imported into this Colony was 1,317 M. less than the quantity imported in 1890. This clearly shows that as far as her own demand is concerned Newfoundland lumber is rapidly taking the place of the imported article, while every year a large increase in the quantity exported goes to show that at no distant date Newfoundland will take high rank as a lumber-producing country. The prices realized for lumber in 1890 and 1891 were respectively $15 and $20 per M.

MANUFACTURES.

With regard to manufactures, a considerable advance will be observed in that of boneless codfish, the value of this article exported

NEWFOUNDLAND. 1891.

from the Colony being $20,000 in 1891 as against $6,000 in 1890. Within the last two years an excellent glue has been manufactured from codfish skins and has found a ready sale both in the Colony and Dominion of Canada. It possesses the qualities of being easily soluble and exceedingly adhesive and is considered quite equal, if not superior for many purposes, to the ordinary glue of commerce.

With regard to the longer established manufactories of leather-ware, cordage, nets, tobacco, soap, ships' biscuits, &c., it may safely be said that each year shows an increase in the quantity and value of their output.

AGRICULTURE.

Owing to the expenditure in bonuses of the whole amount of the loans authorised by the Legislature for the encouragement of agriculture, a considerable falling off will be noted in connexion with the grants of land and more especially in those granted for agricultural purposes, the bulk of the grants issued for 1891 being for timber and mining concessions. If, however, we turn to the figures given in the census for 1891 we will find a most extraordinary development of agriculture during the last seven years. According to the census of 1884 the estimated acreage of cultivated land in the Colony was set down as 47,000 acres; in 1891 it was 64,500. The following figures will show more clearly than words can explain the progress made during the last seven years:—

—	1890.	1891.
Oats	5,393 Bush.	12,900 Bush.
Hay	28,312 Tons.	36,032 Tons.
Potatoes	302,649 Brls.	481,024 Brls.
Turnips	24,000 „	60,235 „
Other root crops	21,144 „	86,400 „

and with regard to live stock—

—	1890.	1891.
Horses	5,534	6,138
Horned Cattle	19,884	23,822
Sheep	40,326	60,840
Goats	7,934	8,715

Ten years ago Newfoundland was dependent for more than half of its vegetable supply upon the neighbouring provinces; at this date, if we except oats and dried pease, the Colony is self-sustaining.

With regard to animal food, it is still necessary to import live cattle.

The policy of the present Government has been to develop and open up to capital and labour, by means of railway extension, the rich lands of the interior. They had hoped to have been able to carry out a Settlement Scheme in connexion with the railway, and an application for a guarantee of loan was made to Her Majesty's Government for that purpose.

The matter remains in abeyance, but it is anxiously desired that such a guarantee will be forthcoming. Unless a Settlement Scheme is enterprised in connexion with railway extension it is difficult to conceive how the latter will be made remunerative, or to pay the interest on the capital invested.

The country possesses rich agricultural lands, the climate favours the development of agriculture, and the large market at home, as well as proximity to the markets of Europe, should be a sufficient inducement to practical farmers to engage in this industry. Before much greater advance is made in this direction provision will have to be made to aid settlers in removing to the localities best suited for agriculture, and to construct waggon roads through the new settlements.

CENSUS.

The Imperial Government having asked that the time appointed for the taking of the Census in this Colony should coincide with that upon which it was taken in other parts of the Empire, the Colonial Government, in 1891, carried this request into effect. Unfortunately the fire of 8th July destroyed the almost completed printed copy of its results, together with some of the manuscript; under these circumstances it will be impossible to issue a tabulated statement until early in the ensuing year. As the report which will accompany the issue will deal fully with the subject, it will be only necessary at this time to state, generally, that the population of the Colony has not during the last seven years shown a material increase. In 1891 it amounted to 202,040 an addition of only 4,705, or 2·38 per cent. to that of 1884. Entering somewhat more into details, we find that the total for 1891 (including Labrador) was made up as follows: males, 100,375; females, 97,559. This does not include Labrador from where these returns could not be obtained. Persons employed in mining, 1,258; factories, 3,740; agriculture (solely), 1,547, but a large number of fishermen devote portion of their time to farming; manufactories, 1,209; other occupations (servant girls, porters, &c.), 13,542; fisheries, 54,755. The number of births were, in 1891, 6,716; marriages, 916; and deaths, 4,478. The birth rate was 33 per 1,000, the death rate was 22 per 1,000. The highest

NEWFOUNDLAND. 1891.

birth-rate was in the district of Trinity, equal to 40 per 1,000; the lowest, in the district of Ferryland, 25 per 1,000.

The highest death rate was in the districts of Trinity, Twillingate, Burin, *i.e.*, 30 per 1,000; the lowest in Fortune Bay, 8 per 1,000.

As regards religious denominations, the population is classified as follows:—

Church of England	-	69,824, increase of	1·19 per cent.
Roman Catholic	-	72,696, decrease „	3·40 „
Methodist -	-	53,276, increase „	9·24 „
Presbyterian -	-	1,449, decrease „	3·08 „
Congregational	-	782 increase „	1·82 „
Salvation Army	-	2,092.	
Other denominations	-	1,921, decrease „	6·33 „

RAILWAYS.

During 1891, the construction of the Hall's Bay Railway was pushed forward as rapidly as the short season available would permit; 65 miles of track was laid, and right of way cut and road bed graded for 15 or 20 miles more. This line is being constructed under contract with a Canadian firm, it is narrow gauge (3ft. 6in.) and costs $15,600 per mile, payment being made in the Colony's bonds, bearing interest at 3½ per cent.

MINING.

Mining statistics for the year show an increase in value of double that of the previous year. The shipments of copper and other ores in 1890 were; ingots 609 tons; regulus 1,236 tons; green 400 tons, valued at $226,792. Antimony valued at $1,200; iron pyrites 16,700 tons, valued at $72,315.

In 1891, ingots, 1,139 tons; regulus, 3,626 tons; green, 7,060 tons, valued at $565,850; antimony valued at $1,250; iron pyrites, 19,150 tons, valued at $57,900; selenite, 250 tons, valued at $1,200.

Asbestos properties inland from the West Coast have been worked by local and foreign capital. No shipments of that mineral were made during the year but the reports from the several mines are most encouraging.

The Geological Survey for the year revealed the existence of valuable deposits of coals and other minerals in the vicinity of Grand Lake. A preliminary report by James P. Howley, Esq., F.G.S., the superintendent of the Geological Survey, was placed in your Excellency's hands, which stated that in a total horizontal distance of 684 feet there are no less than 35 outcrops of coal, ranging from 1 inch to 3 feet in thickness. That in connexion with the coal there were extensive clay iron deposits of good quality, that freestones, grindstones, and whetstones are abundant amongst the coal measures, and that a great number of fireclay beds occur within the section.

Marble was also met with near the upper end of the Grand Lake, and immense deposits discovered on the upper Humber not far from the shores of White Bay.

In concluding his report upon this district, Mr. Howley says that, taking it altogether, its extent, and valuable character of its agricultural land, vast timber supply and abundance of other resources, he feels no hesitation in expressing the opinion that with a judicious system of opening up by means of roads and railroads and encouraging a proper class of emigrants to settle these lands, and with capital properly directed in the development of its mineral resources, this valley is quite capable of supporting a population equal to that of the entire Island at present, altogether irrespective of the fisheries.

The following analyses of coal samples from Grand Lake by W. H. Fitton, F.G.S., F.S.Sc., of Beeston, Leeds, England, may be of interest to your Excellency. Twelve samples of coal were taken as being most typical, and duplicate tests were made in order to ensure accuracy. The analyses of these coals show :—

(No. 1.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	7·41
Volatile matter	30·73
Fixed carbon	53·49
Ash	7·71
Sulphur	·66
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	61·86 per cent.
Colour of ash	Light pink.

(No. 2.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	15·78
Volatile matter	30·30
Fixed carbon	45·29
Ash	8·08
Sulphur	·55
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	53·92 per cent.
Colour of ash	Light grey.

(No. 3.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	5·82
Volatile matter	33·62
Fixed carbon	55·28
Ash	4·49
Sulphur	·79
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	60·56 per cent.
Colour of ash	Brown.

(No. 4.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	5·80
Volatile matter	31·44
Fixed carbon	57·86
Ash	4·08
Sulphur	·82
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	62·76 per cent.
Colour of ash	Light pink.

(No. 5.)

Coal Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	5·02
Volatile matter	31·25
Fixed carbon	34·03
Ash	8·66
Sulphur	1·04
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	63·73 per cent.
Colour of ash	Light red.

(No. 6.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	4·32
Volatile matter	16·84
Fixed carbon	72·66
Ash	5·33
Sulphur	·85
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	78·84 per cent.
Colour of ash	Light brown.

(No. 7.)

Coal Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	9·93
Volatile matter	24·01
Fixed carbon	49·15
Ash	16·14
Sulphur	·77
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	66·06 per cent.
Colour of ash	Grey.

(No. 8.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	10·77
Volatile matter	16·55
Fixed carbon	33·89
Ash	37·86
Sulphur	·93
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	72·68 per cent.
Colour of ash	Grey.

(No. 9.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	10·22
Volatile matter	24·39
Fixed carbon	48·51
Ash	15·72
Sulphur	1·16
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	65·39 per cent.
Colour of ash	Light pink.

(No. 10.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	13·71
Volatile matter	26·83
Fixed carbon	51·06
Ash	7·56
Sulphur	·84
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	59·56 per cent.
Colour of ash	Light grey.

(No. 11.)

Aldery Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	12·11
Volatile matter	19·53
Fixed carbon	44·70
Ash	22·33
Sulphur	1·33
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	68·36 per cent.
Colour of ash	Grey.

(No. 12.)

Little Brook, Grand Lake.

Moisture	8·44
Volatile matter	28·54
Fixed carbon	50·07
Ash	11·53
Sulphur	1·42
	100·00

Coke (in closed vessel)	63·92 per cent.
Colour of ash	Red.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. BOND,
Colonial Secretary.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 68.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891–1892.

(For Report for 1890–91, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 37.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
April 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–18.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889&'90
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	"
51	Leeward Islands	"
52	Grenada	"
53	St. Lucia	"
54	Labuan	"
55	British Guiana	"
55	Zululand	"
57	Mauritius	"
58	Lagos	"
59	Straits Settlements	"
60	Ceylon	"
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	"
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	"
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany

No. 68.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

[For Report for 1890-91, *see* Colonial Report, [Annual], No. 37.]

No. 1.

Sir H. W. Norman to the Marquess of Ripon.

Government House, Brisbane,
December 7, 1892.

My Lord Marquess,

I have the honour to transmit for your information, a printed copy of the Annual Report by the Administrator of British New Guinea for the year which ended on the 30th June 1892. I also enclose the copy of a letter from the Chief Secretary of Queensland, dated the 30th November 1892, in reply to my memorandum of the 25th idem, in which I forwarded this Report to him for information and for any remarks which he might desire to offer.

2. I have pleasure in expressing my cordial concurrence in the opinion of Sir Samuel Griffith, that the work performed by the Administrator during the past year has not only been great in extent but that it will be of permanent value, and I need hardly repeat, what I have so often urged, that the duty of the Administrator could not be efficiently performed if he had not a steam vessel at his disposal.

3. I join with the Chief Secretary in the hope that when Sir William MacGregor vacates his laborious and difficult office, a worthy successor may be appointed, but I trust that circumstances will admit of Sir William MacGregor continuing to administer the Possession for some time to come.

4. Notwithstanding the fact that all the Ordinances passed during the year have already been before your Lordship's department and that all the reports of visits of inspection by the Administrator having been sent separately as soon as they were printed, the Report and its Appendices contain a large amount of most interesting information relating to British New Guinea which I am sure will be highly appreciated by your Lordship

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. Norman.

The Most Hon.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

I 75419. Wt. 10230.

British New Guinea. 1891-92.

Chief Secretary's Office, Brisbane,
November 30, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to return herewith Sir William MacGregor's Annual Report for the Year from 1st July 1891, to 30th June 1892, which your Excellency was good enough to send me on the 25th instant for my perusal.

I have read the Report with much interest, and venture to express the opinion that the work done by the Administrator during the twelve months covered by it is not only great in extent but of permanent value.

It is, I think, impossible to read the several Despatches recording His Honour's visits to the different parts of the Possession, without being impressed with the fact that the means of speedy and certain communication afforded by the "Merrie England" are essential to the effectual discharge of the functions of Government in such a territory.

I desire again to repeat the hope expressed in my letter to your Excellency of the 2nd February last, that Her Majesty's Government will see their way to continue to share with the Guaranteeing Colonies the burden of the responsibility of the efficient government of British New Guinea. But whatever determination may be come to, I trust that it will be announced sufficiently long before the 31st March next, when the present provisional arrangement terminates, to enable fresh arrangements to be entered into by the Guaranteeing Colonies for continuing the services of the Government steamer upon a fresh basis, if necessary, without any break.

I hope that when Sir William MacGregor's term of office expires—and he cannot be expected to continue indefinitel the laborious duties which he has now discharged for some four years—his successor will be a man who will carry on the policy most successfully inaugurated by Sir William MacGregor, of governing the country in the interests of the native races, and who will also be fitted by constitutional energy, legislative and administrative ability, and a high sense of duty, for continuing a work which, in my previous letter already referred to, I ventured to describe as honourable alike to the officers more immediately entrusted with the duty of administration, to the Guaranteeing Colonies, and to the Empire.

(Signed) S. W. GRIFFITH.

His Excellency
Sir Henry W. Norman, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.,
Governor.

ANNUAL REPORT 1891-92.

INDEX.

Section.	Subject.	Page.
	Preliminary.	
	Annual Report made under Royal Instructions - - -	8
	Legislation.	
1	Progress of Legislation ; number of Ordinances passed - -	8
2	Ordinance No. IV. of 1891 deals with Trespass by Animals, and Provides for Registration of Cattle Brands and of Animals.	8
3	Ordinance No. V. of 1891 Appropriates 15,000*l.* for Service of Year ending 30th June, 1892, &c.	9
4	Ordinance No. VI. of 1891 Deals with Regulation of Sale of Intoxicating Liquors.	9
5	Ordinance No. I. of 1892 sanctions Supplementary Charges on Account of Year ending 30th June, 1891.	11
6	Ordinance No. II. of 1892 regulates Employment of Native Labourers.	11
7	Ordinance No. III. of 1892 adopts "*Queensland Post and Telegraph Act*, 1891."	14
8	Ordinance No. IV. of 1892 provides for Creation of Reserves for public purposes.	14
9	Ordinance No. V. of 1892 amends "*The Native Children Custody and Reformation Ordinance of* 1891."	14
10	Native Regulation concerning Adultery - - - -	15
11	Proclamations having force of Law : Importation of Certain Animals from places other than Australian Colonies, Tasmania, and New Zealand prohibited.	16
	Administration of Justice.	
12	Order in Council providing for Appeal in Admiralty Cases -	17
13	Courts competent to deal with Cases other than those affecting Natives ; Native Magistrates' Courts ; Table of Cases dealt with, and remarks thereon.	17
14	Remarks upon certain Special Cases - - - -	21
15	Remarks upon Administration of Justice generally - - -	23
	Administrative Visits of Inspection.	
16	Visit to D'Entrecasteaux and Kiriwina Groups - - -	24
17	Visit to Buhutu and Wari Tribes ; Expedition to Mount Suckling -	25
18	Visit to Mekeo district ; advance upon Village of Inawa - -	25
19	Visit to Hostile Tribe of Eboa ; Arrest of Native of Maiva ; Surprise of Village of Inawaia.	25
20	Renewed visit to Mekeo District - - - - -	26
21	Visit of Inspection to Eastern Portion of Possession - -	27
22	Visit to Island of Sanaroa (Welle Island) and various other Islands in Eastern District.	28
23	Visit to Louisiades - - - - - - -	30
24	Visit to Western District of Possession - - - -	30
25	Examination of Coast eastward from Bebea River - - -	31
26	Expedition undertaken with object of meeting Tugeri invaders -	33
27	Further Expedition to repel the Tugeri - - - -	34

Section.	Subject.	Page.
	Government Property and Works.	
28	Sale of Schooner "Hygeia"; Purchase of Land from Natives	35
29	Works executed during Year	35
30	Work performed by Prisoners, &c.	36
	Establishments.	
31	List of Officers, showing Dates of their Appointments and their Salaries.	36
32	Absence on Leave of certain Officers	37
33	Health of Officers	37
34	Armed Constabulary	37
35	Necessity for further Extension of Service	38
36	Employment of Natives as Boatmen, Policemen, &c., and as Village Constables.	38
	Meteorology.	
37	Meteorological Observations, Temperature, Rainfall, &c.	38
	Trade.	
38	Imports and Exports	39
39	Shipping	42
40	Postal	42
	Mission Work.	
41	Commencement of operations by Wesleyan Church	43
42	Loss sustained by Anglican Mission through death of Rev. A. Maclaren.	43
43	Progress made by London Missionary Society	43
44	Progress made by Sacred Heart Mission; General Remarks upon Extension of Missionary influence.	44
	Land.	
45	Applications for Land for European Settlement; issue of First Grant; Claims to Land.	44
	Prisons.	
46	Success attained by Prisons Department; Number of Prisoners; Health and Discipline.	44
	Finance.	
47	Revenue	45
48	Expenditure	46
49	Exploration Fund	46
50	Expenditure on s.s. "Merrie England"	47
	Native Dialects.	
51	Dialects compiled during year	47

Section.	Subject.	Page.
	Scientific Contributions.	
52	Report by Mr. Maitland upon Geology - - - -	47
	Reports by Officers.	
53	Reports of Messrs. Lawes, Moreton, Kowald, and English - -	48
	General.	
54	Annual visit to Brisbane; assistance rendered by Government of Queensland.	48
55	Services rendered by Messrs. McDowall and Lawson - -	49
56	Visit made by Sir Samuel Griffith to the Possession - -	49
57	Results of Native Administration - - - - -	49

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1891-2.

Brisbane, 23rd November, 1892.

Sir,—I have the honour to present the usual Annual Report on British New Guinea, as directed by Section XXXVI. of the Royal Instructions, for the year ending on the 30th June, 1892.

LEGISLATION.

1. Perhaps nothing shows more clearly the progressive development of a young country than a connected account from time to time of the legislation effected, and of the circumstances under which new laws are passed or old ones amended. In this belief it has been deemed expedient to give here not only the general gist of each law passed during the year, but also the chief reasons on which legislation was grounded.

During the year eight Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council, and one Native Regulation became law. Two Proclamations and Regulations to carry them into effect, all having the force of law, were also issued.

Ordinances.

2. Ordinance No. IV. of 1891 was framed to meet a want that was already making itself felt among the owners of cattle in the Possession, and also to protect the native or other cultivator. Its object is to deal with trespass by animals, and to provide for the registration of cattle brands and of animals. The question of trespass is a very important one in a country that has a large native population depending on the cultivation of the soil for its sustenance. The natives possess neither the means nor the knowledge that would enable them to fence their gardens against cattle. As it would be manifestly oppressive to put on them this burden of defence, it has to be laid on the owner of the cattle alone. The native, did he possess the requisite knowledge and the necessary means, could not derive any direct profit from fencing, as he has himself no grazing animals. He cannot, therefore, be called upon to contribute any share in fencing the boundary between him and a neighbour. The main provisions of the law are these :—

When an animal trespassess upon any land, the owner or the person in charge of the animal is liable, on the complaint of the owner or occupier of the land, to pay a penal sum of from five shillings to one shilling and sixpence for each animal trespassing, and also to pay as compensation for damages any sum not exceeding twenty pounds.

If the person complained of is in the Possession, the summons is served on him, otherwise on his agent or representative.

The different kinds of fence or construction within which cattle are to be deemed to be duly confined are specified in the Ordinance.

If a person complains that an animal, through not being kept duly confined, is a public nuisance, any magistrate may call upon the owner or person in charge of the animal to show cause why an

order should not be issued directing that the animal be kept duly confined. If no owner or person in charge can be found, the magistrate may still determine the case, and may issue an order requiring the owner or person in charge to confine the animal. If neither the owner nor person in charge can be found, the order is to be published in the *Gazette*. If the order is disobeyed after service, or after publication in the *Gazette*, as the case may be, the animal becomes forfeited to the Crown, and may be disposed of as the Administrator may direct. Similarly any animal found running at large, and for which no owner can be found, may, after notice in the *Gazette*, be forfeited to the Crown.

Cattle over six months old must be either branded or registered. The brand may be registered at the office of the Registrar-General on the payment of a small fee; and an animal may be registered in the same way, and thus be exempted from being branded. All such registrations are published in the *Gazette*.

There are penalties for using animals with the intent to make the owner liable for damages, or for any penalty under the Ordinance; also for dishonest branding, and for tampering with brands. The Administrator in Council can make Regulations with regard to the use of brands under the Ordinance; and can, by Proclamation, extend the meaning of the words "Cattle" or "Animal" so as to include animals not comprised under these terms in the Ordinance.

3. Ordinance No. V. of 1891 was passed to appropriate a sum not exceeding £15,000 for the ordinary services of the Administration for the year ending with the 30th June, 1892.

It also made available within the same period the sum standing to the credit of the Exploration Fund, £717 8*s.* 2*d.*, to be used in carrying out the objects for which that money was originally set apart with the consent of the contributing Colonies.

The same Ordinance further sanctioned the expenditure of a sum not exceeding £7,000 for the maintenance of the s.s. "Merrie England" for the year ending with the 31st March, 1892. Of this sum, £5,000 was provided by the Imperial Government, and £2,000 by the contributing Colonies.

4. Ordinance No. VI. of 1891 was framed to deal with the difficult subject of regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors.

The first Ordinance passed in the Possession after annexation was one which prohibited the supply of intoxicating liquor to natives, under severe penalties. That measure has been very successful, its provisions having been strictly carried out. It can safely be said, as a general statement, that up to the present time natives are unacquainted with intoxicating liquors. Though the supply of intoxicating liquors to natives could be forbidden, it was recognised that its use could be prohibited to Europeans only in certain exceptional cases, and that for the most part all that could be done as regarded the non-aboriginal part of the population was to regulate the sale of such articles. The principal provisions

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1891-2.

of the Ordinance, not of the usual technical nature, will be briefly noticed.

Two different kinds of license are issued—a license for premises ashore, and a ship license. A licensee may sell liquor on his licensed premises in any quantity not less than a quart bottle, to be consumed elsewhere than on the licensed premises. Liquor sold to a *bonâ fide* resident, on the premises, may be drunk on the premises.

For the purpose of dealing with applications for licenses, the Colony is divided into Licensing Districts, which are the same as the districts for the Courts of Petty Sessions. Only Resident Magistrates can deal with these applications in Court. An applicant for a license gives notice in writing to a magistrate. The magistrate causes the notice to be posted up in some conspicuous place for not less than fourteen days before the application is heard in Court. Any person objecting to the granting of the license applied for may post below the notice his objections, in writing, not less than forty-eight hours before the hearing; but the Court may entertain objections that have not previously been posted up.

The application must be dealt with in open Court, and any person may give evidence for or against it.

It lies within the absolute discretion of the Court, from which there is no appeal, to give or to refuse the license without stating any reasons. But the magistrate is required to report on every application to the Government Secretary.

The license remains in force for a year, and application for renewal may be made at any time within sixty days of the expiration of an existing license.

The licensee or his agent must reside on the premises. An agent must be appointed by a written document, which has to be delivered to a magistrate, whereupon the agent is for all the purposes of the Ordinance regarded as the licensee.

One of the owners, the agent, or the master of registered British ship may apply for a Ship License, to enable him to sell liquor on the ship within the waters of the Possession; but Customs dues must have been paid on the liquor before it is sold, and it cannot be disposed of in less quantity than two gallons. The licensee or his agent must reside in the ship, failing which the license may be cancelled.

A licensee cannot recover more than £5 for liquor supplied to one person, and cannot sue for liquor supplied to a person in his employ. He is not allowed to receive articles in pledge for liquor. He is also debarred from selling liquor to a person that is insane, intoxicated, or under fourteen years of age.

Severe penalties are provided against a licensee for having on his premises certain specified noxious ingredients, and also for keeping or selling adulterated liquor.

The license of a licensee that supplies liquor to a native may be cancelled, in addition to any other penalty inflicted; but a licensee may intrust liquor to a native to be carried by him to his employer, if resident within five miles of the licensed premises;

but if the distance exceeds five miles the licensee must first receive an order in writing from the person employing the native.

There is a penalty for selling liquor without a license, and also power to seize and forfeit liquor that may be suspected of being unlawfully kept for sale.

Two different kinds of prohibition order may be issued under the Ordinance.

The commander of a ship of war, or of a vessel belonging to one of the Colonial Governments, may apply to a magistrate for an order prohibiting liquor from being supplied by a licensee to any person forming part of the crew or staff of his vessel, except on the written permission of the commander. The order, when issued, will have force over the whole Possession. If any licensee, who has received a copy of the order, disobeys it, he becomes liable to a fine not exceeding 20*l.*

If a complaint is made in writing to any justice that a person, by the use of liquor, is injuring himself, or anyone for whose support he is liable, in mind, body, or estate, the justice must summon the person before a Court to show cause why a prohibition order should not issue. The evidence of any person may be taken for or against the person summoned. The Court may issue a prohibition order, if it finds good reason for doing so; the order cannot remain in force for more than a year, and will, while valid, be in force for the whole Colony. It will require that no liquor be given by any person, under a fine not exceeding 20*l.* or imprisonment not exceeding two months, to the person to whom the order relates. The Ordinance came into force on the 1st of June, 1892.

5. Ordinance No. I. of 1892 was passed to give legal sanction to the expenditure of 721*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* in defraying supplementary charges for the service of the year ending with the 30th June, 1891. The total expenditure was the same as the sum appropriated for the service of the year by Ordinance No. V. of 1891, 15,000*l.*, but there was an excess of expenditure on certain votes, corresponding to the savings on other votes, amounting to a total of 721*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* The votes exceeded were as follows:—

Service.	Vote.	Expenditure.	Excess.
	£	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Schooner "Hygeia" - -	1,500	1,648 16 11	148 16 11
Boat, Eastern Division - -	100	100 3 11	0 3 11
Boat, Samarai - - -	83	84 13 3	1 13 3
Buildings - - -	500	979 0 8	479 0 8
Agricultural - - -	300	355 9 2	55 9 2
Library and Scientific - -	50	86 4 7	36 4 7

6. Ordinance No. II. of 1892, passed to regulate the employment of native labourers, is perhaps the most important legislative measure dealt with during the year.

Section XIII. of the Letters Patent, dated 8th June, 1888, passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom for erecting certain British territory in New Guinea and the adjacent islands into a separate Possession, and providing for the Government thereof, required that the Legislative Council of the Possession should establish a law providing—"That no deportation of natives be allowed, either from one part of the Possession to another or to any place beyond the Possession, except under such conditions as may be established by order of Ourselves in Our Privy Council, or by some law of the Possession which has been reserved for the signification of Our pleasure, and assented to by Ourselves in our Privy Council." Effect was given to this command by Ordinance No. III. of 1888. Under that enactment the Possession was divided into districts, and the natives of each could be engaged to work within their own home district, but not elsewhere. Some exception was permitted in the case of men engaged before a magistrate to work on board boats and vessels on the coast. Under no circumstances did the law allow natives, under engagement or otherwise, to be removed beyond the Possession. If one bears in mind that when that Ordinance was passed the natives were utterly ignorant of such things as Government, law, or order; that, generally speaking, each tribe lived on armed neutrality with its neighbours, if they were not at actual war; that the great majority of them never left their own district or lands; and that each district spoke a dialect of its own, it must be conceded that the restrictions imposed by the Letters Patent and by "*The Natives Removal Prohibition Ordinance of* 1888" were required by the then circumstances of the country. But when large numbers of the coast and more accessible inland tribes had become acquainted with the Government, and had learned something of its functions; when they began to understand that aggressive tribes would be restrained, and that they could travel with safety, and would be fairly treated by the white man, it came to be felt that the restrictions of Ordinance No. III. of 1888 were not only no longer necessary, but that th y were beginning to actually stand in the way of advancement.

To break down the exclusive isolation of the different tribes has been one of the most difficult tasks of the Government. To this isolation are, no doubt, largely owing the shyness, timidity, and suspicion so often encountered among the Papuans. It is very improbable now that any tribe that knows the Government would, under any ordinary circumstances, offer violence to the members of any other tribe in the service of a European. Government influence will, in all probability, keep pace with the employer of labour when it does not advance into new districts before him. There is, therefore, now no risk in permitting labourers to be taken from one district to work in another. That such removals will henceforth be a positive advantage is clear. The more the natives of one district are brought into contact with the natives of other districts the better will they understand the protecting and pacifying power of law and Government; it will make them less shy and less suspicious;

and such removals and contact, when they become common, will aid greatly in breaking down the Babel of tongues which has made neighbouring tribes foreign nations to each other. The new law must, therefore, be of great advantage to the natives. The brief *résumé* of its provisions given below will show that it cannot fail to be much more favourable to the employer of labour than the Ordinance of 1888.

The new law was reserved for the assent of Her Majesty, and that assent was graciously granted on the 25th August, 1892.

Natives cannot be removed beyond the boundaries of the Possession except in the way provided by the Ordinance, nor can they be taken for more than twenty-five miles from their homes, unless they are engaged before, and with the sanction of, a resident magistrate. Within twenty-five miles of their homes, natives can be employed for periods not exceeding one month at a time, without the intervention of the magistrate. This applies to employment ashore or afloat. The employment of women on board vessels is not permitted.

Only persons having *bonâ fide* residences in the country can engage its natives to work afloat. Before a magistrate can sanction an engagement, he must satisfy himself that the native is willing to enter into the contract, and that he will be fairly treated and duly paid and returned to his home on the expiration of the engagement. The period of engagement cannot exceed twelve months. On the complaint of the employer or of the employé a magistrate may, at his discretion, cancel or vary the terms of the contract between them.

Employers who have places of residence in the Possession can receive permits to remove beyond its boundaries any native working for them under an engagement entered into before a magistrate, for fishing in the Gulf of Papua, or in Torres Straits, in boats that are *bonâ fide* stationed in the waters of the Possession.

Residents can also receive permits to let them take natives under engagement to them, entered into before a magistrate, to Cooktown or Thursday Island, on their own vessels, as boatmen, seamen, or as personal attendants.

An employer removing a native beyond the Possession is required to give security that the services of the native will not be transferred, and that the native will be duly returned to his own country. When any person removes a native from his home, he incurs the obligation of supplying the native, until he returns him to his usual place of residence, with food, water, medicine, and shelter.

Payment of natives engaged before a magistrate must be made in the presence of the latter.

Provision is made for inspecting premises or vessels on which native labourers are employed.

There is no legal barrier to engaging native labourers in any district of the Possession to work anywhere in the Colony,

provided that the natives are engaged before the magistrate. There is no reason why boats located in the Possession should not be manned in whole or in part by the natives of the country in fishing for bêche-de-mer and pearl-shell, either in Torres Straits or in the waters of the Possession. The natives engaged on such vessels can be permitted to proceed with them to the nearest Australian ports to procure supplies, take over cargo, &c. The Ordinance has been framed to permit the greatest freedom of contract between the employer and the native that is compatible with reasonable protection to the latter in his present condition.

7. Ordinance No. III. of 1892 was passed to adopt as the law of the Possession the Queensland "*Act to Consolidate and Amend the Law relating to Posts and Telegraphs*" (55 Vict. No. 15).

Postal matters in the Possession are in practice administered as if it were a postal district of Queensland; the same stamps, the same rates, and the same regulations are in use in both Colonies. Such changes as became necessary in Queensland on account of that Colony joining the Universal Postal Union also became necessary in the Possession, which joined the Union at the same time, and the Ordinance No. III. of 1892 was passed to enable postal affairs in the Possession to be still kept on the same footing as those of Queensland under the new conditions.

8. Ordinance No. IV. of 1892 was framed primarily to enable the Government to legally set apart a small block of land at Samarai as a reserve for the use of Her Majesty's ships of war on the station. It was, however, seen that, instead of passing a special enactment for that particular purpose, it would be better to have a law of more general application, which would enable reserves to be made for any useful public purpose.

The Ordinance empowers the Administrator in Council to reserve any Crown land either permanently or temporarily, for such things as public defence, schools, wharves, public gardens, cemeteries, or for any special purpose approved by the Legislative Council by resolution.

The reserve may be made by the issue of a Crown Grant in trust; or the Administrator in Council may, by Proclamation, place any reserved land under the control of trustees. Trustees may be enabled to make byelaws for carrying out the object of the trust.

9. Ordinance No. V. of 1892 was passed to amend "The Native Children Custody and Reformation Ordinance of 1891." The last-mentioned law makes provision for entrusting to certain persons the care and custody of any native child who is an orphan, or is deserted by its relatives, or of any native child that has committed an offence against a law of the Possession. Provision was made to safeguard the child, and to give the person having custody over it the power and authority of a parent. It appeared, however, to be necessary to give the Resident Magistrate of the district power to compel the custodian to produce the

child when required by him to do so; and to prevent the child from being removed from the place specified in the mandate confiding the child to the custodian. This has accordingly been provided for in Ordinance No. V. of 1892.

Native Regulations.

10. Only one Native Regulation was passed within the period covered by this Report—Regulation No. IV. of 1891, concerning adultery.

There can be but little doubt that in recent times and among the more settled tribes the most frequent cause of quarrel between communities and individuals is woman. Custom differs much in different districts as to the manner of obtaining a wife. Some tribes always marry their own women; others never do so, but obtain wives from certain tribes between whom and themselves there exists reciprocity in this matter; others, again, obtain wives wherever they can get them. In some cases the pair are betrothed at birth, or by custom, perhaps, before birth. Widows belong to the brother of the deceased husband, as a rule, and can be disposed of by him at his pleasure. One point appears to be common to all the tribes: The suitor must pay, or give, certain property to the girl's father. There is thus in most cases somewhat narrow limits to the circle within which a Papuan may select a spouse. The unions of early life are apparently, however, in the majority of cases love matches, although it is considered to be the right thing in many places for a girl that is being married to pretend coyness, compulsion, and capture. The youth of both sexes (especially girls) are now beginning to find out that the maintenance of peace by the Government enables them to follow their natural inclinations in a way they could not do before in selecting a partner. But this adds to police cases at first, and will do so for some time to come. Owing to the circumscribed choice, to the extreme fickleness of the Papuan heart, and to the little exalted state of morality generally, adultery is far from uncommon. The injured wife seldom proceeds to acts of violence. The husband sharply resents such an injury, and this is a fruitful source of assault and murder. The husband might be pacified by a large payment, if not deeply attached to his wife; but if his affection is strongly engaged he very frequently uses his spear or bow and arrow on the woman, or on her paramour, or on both. The Regulation is an attempt to substitute a legal remedy for the natural and more ready method of redress. The difficulty will be to once get this judicial remedy started in the several districts. Once begun it will soon become established.

The Regulation, though unpretentious in appearance, is in reality a very important measure. It can be administered only by a European magistrate for native matters, and he cannot move in the case unless a complaint is lodged by the injured husband. The guilty man or woman may be imprisoned. The

"co-respondent" may be made to give payment to the wife's husband. What under native customs is recognised to be a marriage is held to be so under the Regulation. The evidence tendered in each case must be committed to writing, and a report has to be forwarded to the Government Secretary. There is some reason to believe that the Regulation will soon begin to be operative.

Proclamations having the force of law.

11. An experience of some three years has shown the Government of the Possession that the dire disease of rabies and hydrophobia does not exist in the country. As is well known, the Colonies of Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania have established measures to protect themselves against this terrible malady. The necessity for such protection in British New Guinea was very apparent. It was plain that were rabies introduced iuto the Possession there would be a strong probability that it would soon cross the Strait and become disseminated in Australia. The domestic grounds for protection were very strong. In the first place, the Possession has a large barefooted, barelegged population; in the second place, the native dog is everywhere kept as a pet, as an article of diet, or for hunting. The native dog, closely resembling the Australian dingo in appearance, has a strong gregarious tendency. The dogs of a village meet, as a rule, several times a day to howl in chorus—they have not learned to bark—and they hardly ever separate without fighting. They possess remarkably sharp, slender, canine teeth, with which they inflict a deep "snappy" bite. Rabies once introduced among such animals would spread iike wildfire, and would speedily be communicated to man and to the village pig, which is also when young almost invariably a pet, often nursed at the breast of a woman, like, or in lieu of, a child if the latter has died.

When the question was under consideration it was pointed out that it would be extremely desirous that similar preventive measures should be adopted in Dutch New Guinea and in Kaiser Wilhelms-land, and that further additional protection would be ecured to all our Colonies in Australasia if legislation on the same lines were adopted in the French Possessions of Oceania. This matter received the earnest support of Sir Samuel Griffith, and, largely owing to that fact, there is good reason to believe that the neighbouring settlements of France, Germany, and the Netherlands will follow us in endeavouring to keep out rabies from this part of the world.

When dealing with the one matter of rabies, it was deemed expedient to impose the same restrictions on the importation of other animals as exist in Queensland. Accordingly, by one Proclamation the importation of pigs into the Possession is absolutely prohibited from all places except the Australian Colonies, New Zealand, and Tasmania. This was considered advisable,

because a like restriction is in force in Queensland, and because, on the one hand, the best breeds of swine are already fully established in Australia, and, on the other, such diseases as trichinosis, bladderworms, &c., are unknown in British New Guinea at present.

By another Proclamation the importation of cattle, horses, sheep, goats, dogs, deer, and camels is permitted from the Australian Colonies, Tasmania, and New Zealand. From other places they must be accompanied by certificates of health, be examined on arrival, and be detained for specified periods in quarantine. Dogs are detained in quarantine for a period of six months at the port of arrival. This detention, it is recognised, gives a reasonable measure of protection, while it is too short to confer absolute immunity. Cattle are detained 120 days, sheep 90 days, in quarantine. No diseased animal from any place can be landed in the Possession.

Regulations were passed on the 3rd June, 1892, for carrying into effect the provisions of the "*Diseased Animals Act.*" Under these, stock imported from the Australian Colonies, Tasmania, or New Zealand must be proved to be the produce of those Colonies, or to have been subjected to the rules as to quarantine and disinfection in force in those Colonies.

Commissioners and inspectors have been duly appointed for carrying out the provisions of these Proclamations and Regulations.

Administration of Justice.

12. By an Order of the Queen in Council, dated 24th November, 1891, an appeal is provided, in Admiralty cases, from the Colonial Court of Admiralty of the possession to the Supreme Court of Queensland at Brisbane.

In civil matters, when the amount or value in dispute exceeds £100, an appeal lies from any court of the possession to the Supreme Court of Queensland. There is a Colonial Court of Admiralty in the Possession, by virtue of the Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890. The Order mentioned above provides that in all Admiralty matters, whatever the amount or value in dispute, an appeal shall lie from the Colonial Court of Admiralty of the Possession to the Supreme Court of Queensland. The decision of the Supreme Court of Queensland on an appeal made to it under the Order is further subject to appeal to Her Majesty in Council, in the same manner as any other decision of that Court.

13. As the seats of the Courts competent to deal with cases other than those that affect natives only are likely to remain for some time without any change, they may be mentioned here:— The Central Court, presided over by the Chief Magistrate, at Port Moresby; Courts of Petty Sessions, each presided over by a Resident Magistrate, at Mabudauan, Port Moresby, Samarai, and at Nivani in the Louisiade Archipelago. The Chief Magistrate hslds a Court at any place in the Possession as may be requisite

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1891–2.

and the Resident Magistrates hold sittings of their Courts in their respective districts wherever necessary.

The Government Agents of the Rigo and Mekeo districts hold Courts as magistrates for Native matters, but they have no jurisdiction in cases affecting others than natives. All the Resident Magistrates are magistrates for native matters, as also Mr. Musgrave, Mr. Ballantine, Mr. Butterworth, and two natives. It is probable that some other natives may soon be appointed to that position; but this, to prevent oppression, requires care and caution.

The appointment of some four or five more Government Agents, who would also be magistrates for native matters, is much needed, but it is not safe to try to extend the service further unless additional funds were assured for expenditure.

The Resident Magistrate at Mabudauan, the Government Agents for the Mekeo and Rigo districts, and the Resident Magistrate for the Louisiades have each a force of eight members of the armed constabulary. The magistrate at Samarai has a separate police force, recruited in his own district. The Port Moresb-magistrate can procure the services of constabulary from the head quarters of the force when he requires them.

The subjoined tabulated list of cases dealt with by the Courts has kindly been prepared by Mr. Winter. It may be mentioned that many cases, not entered below, are dealt with out of Court by magistrates for Native matters:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1892.

CENTRAL COURT.

Criminal Business.

Number of Persons committed for Trial.	District from which committed.	Persons committed—how disposed of.
24	Central District - -	24 tried.
18	Eastern District - -	2 tried.
		16 awaiting trial.
3	Western District -	2 tried.
		1 awaiting tiral.
Total - 45		

The Court held Seven Criminal Sessions at the Places and Times, and with the Results, under-mentioned:—

No. of Persons tried.	Offence charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
	PORT MORESBY—26th September 1891.		
	1 murder, 6 sedition -	1 guilty of murder, 3 guilty of sedition, 3 acquitted	1 death, 1 four months' imprisonment with hard labour, 2 one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

No. of Persons tried.	Offence Charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
	PORT MORESBY—4th November 1891.		
3	Murder	3 guilty	3 death.
	PORT MORESBY—19th November, 1891.		
6	Rape	6 guilty	6 death.
	DOBU—23rd December, 1891.		
1	Murder	1 guilty	1 death.
	SAMARAI—25th December 1891.		
1	Manslaughter	1 guilty	1 imprisonment till rising of Court.
	SUMAI, FLY RIVER—25th April, 1892.		
2	Murder	2 guilty	2 death.
	MEKEO—16th May, 1892.		
8	Murder	8 guilty	8 death.
Total - 28			

Civil Business.

Number of Proceedings.	Nature of Proceedings.	Amount involved.	Result.
1	Application for administration under Intestacy Act.	£ s. d. —	Granted.

COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS.

Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry.
Central	26	14 murder	12 committed, 2 discharged.
		6 rape	6 committed.
		6 sedition	6 committed.
Eastern	19	16 murder	16 committed.
		1 rape	1 committed.
		1 assault	1 committed.
		1 receiving stolen goods.	1 discharged.
Western	3	3 murder	3 committed.
	Total 48		

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
Central - - -	10	1 Desertion from ship - -	1 convicted.
		1 Supplying liquor to native -	1 dismissed.
		2 Assault- - - -	2 convicted.
		2 Larceny - - -	1 convicted, 1 dismissed.
		3 Injuries to property, - -	1 convicted, 2 dismissed.
		1 breach Constabulary Ordinance . - - -	1 convicted.
Eastern - - -	3	1 illegally removing native -	1 convicted.
Western- - -	None.	2 supplying liquor to native -	1 convicted, 1 dismissed.
	—		
	Total 13		

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions tried.	Amount involved.	Result of Action.
		£ s. d.	
Central - - -	1 - - -	7 0 0	Verdict for defendant.
Eastern - - -	None.	—	—
Western- - -	None.	—	—

Native Magistrates' Courts.—"Forbidden Acts."

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
No. 1 (Eastern) -	9	6 theft - - - -	5 convicted, 1 dismissed.
		1 destroying cocoanut trees -	1 convicted.
		2 adultery - - -	2 acquitted.
Nc, 2 (Central)	34	3 spreading lying reports -	3 convicted.
		4 adultery - - -	2 convicted, 2 dismissed.
		14 assault - - -	9 convicted, 5 dismissed.
		7 theft - - - -	6 convicted, 1 dismissed.
		2 using threatening language	2 convicted.
		4 burying corpse in village -	4 convicted.
No. 3 (Western) -	36	20 assault - - -	20 convicted.
		7 adultery - - -	7 convicted.
		6 theft - - - -	6 convicted.
		1 using threatening language	1 convicted.
		2 disturbing proceedings of Court - - -	2 convicted.
	—		
	Total 79		

Summary

TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court	45
In Courts of Petty Sessions (exclusive of the 45 that went up to Central Court)	16
In Native Magistrates' Courts	79
In all Courts	140

TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVIL PROCEEDINGS.

In Central Court	1
In Courts of Small Debts	1
In Native Magistrates' Courts	0
In all Courts	2

From these figures it will be seen that no fewer than twenty-one persons were sentenced to undergo capital punishment. All were natives of the Possession, and all were males. Fifteen of these were convicted of murder, and six of rape. All these crimes were committed on natives, except in one case, where the victim was a Chinese trader.

The first case on the list arose out of the religious obligation on a son to "take payment" in blood from a neighbouring tribe for the murder of his father many years ago.

The three next—tried at Port Moresby, 4th November—killed a member of their own tribe because they believed that by witchcraft he had brought about the death of one of their relatives.

The six people sentenced at Port Moresby, 19th November, for rape, were five men and a boy, who was apparently under fourteen, although he was already a husband. This crime is not frequent, this being the first case of the kind brought before the Central Court. They met two women of a neighbouring tribe returning home from fishing, and violated them in requital for some old intertribal injury. The boy was, by a mandate under the Native Children's Reformation Ordinance, confided to the custody of a guardian.

The two men tried at Sumai, on the Fly River, 25th April, led their tribe to attack the islanders on Domori, when several people were killed, because they thought the Domori people had caused the death of a Sumai man by witchcraft.

The eight men tried at Mekeo, 16th May, formed part of those that attacked Inawabui a neighbouring tribe, when some eight of the latter were killed. This was done in keeping up old intertribal quarrels. It did not appear that the convicts had been other than mere participants in the general attack.

In each of these cases the accused admitted guilt.

Such circumstances of mitigation were found in all these twenty cases as were thought to justify the exercise of the prerogative of mercy, and the sentences were commuted to terms of imprisonment.

The sentence imposed on the convict at Dobu, 23rd December, was for the murder, by a native, of an honest, industrious, inoffensive Chinese settler, who had been resident in the country for many years. He lived like a European, and was regarded by the natives as being a white man. The reason why he was murdered is not perfectly clear, but one thing was quite manifest —that he had himself given no grounds whatever to justify in any way an attack on him. Two reasons were at different times alleged — one, that the wife of the murderer had, without the knowledge of, or any encouragement from, the victim, conceived a liking for him, which she disclosed to her husband; the other, that the convict killed the Chinese to take payment for a relation of last generation that was killed by a white man. As nothing could be found to mitigate the gravity of the offence, the sentence was carried into effect in the district of the prisoner, where the murder was committed. This was the only sentence of capital punishment imposed during the year which was not commuted.

14. Three cases came before the Courts for supplying liquor to natives, in one of which there was a conviction, while the other two were dismissed. The rarity of this offence must be considered very satisfactory.

That no cases came before the Courts for supplying arms or ammunition to natives is a matter for congratulation. It seems to show that the white part of the population understand and support the reasons for these restrictive laws.

There was only one case for illegally removing a native. As already explained under "Legislation," so many restrictions have now been removed in the matter of employing natives that there will be but little excuse for this kind of contravention of the law in future.

Thirteen cases of adultery came before the magistrates for Native affairs. From what has been stated under paragraph 10, it may be considered that this is an encouraging commencement in administering the Native Regulation dealing with adultery as a penal offence. It is perfectly certain that as the cases of adultery brought before the Courts increase in number the cases of murder and assault will be lessened.

Offences for using threatening language, three of which were dealt with by the Courts for native matters, will, in all probability, not be rare. They arise from tribes in the more settled districts exacting contributions from more ignorant tribes in the name and under the pretended authority of the Government. Contraventions of the Burial Regulation, which requires interment to be carried out in a cemetery, are not likely to cease for years yet. It is a long-established custom to bury under, near, or in the dwelling-house of the deceased—a custom based on strong domestic affection, on religion, and on the use of ages. Much patience, firmness, and perseverance will be required to combat this unsanitary habit, especially in the district of one of the

missions, some at least of the members of which defend the native custom.

15. In the administration of justice the Government has, so far, met with two facts of a very satisfactory nature. One is that the non-native part of the population are remarkably law-abiding for people under such circumstances. Speaking in general terms, it can be said of the Europeans that they have not only shown much respect for the ordinary laws affecting themselves equally there or in any other part of the British Empire, but they also—what is much more remarkable—pay due regard to the exceptional, restrictive, and disabling laws which the peculiar conditions of the country render, at least for the present, necessary. It may, for example, be doubted that there is in any country a more honest, law-obeying class of men, as a class, than the diggers that have been on Misima and Tagula for four years. They complain and think they do not receive sufficient attention from the Government, but they foster the establishment of law and order. It is a very remarkable fact in the history of a new Colony of this kind that during the first four years of its existence only one case has come before the Courts of a European charged with the murder of a native. In that instance the person so charged was self-accused, and the finding of the Court was that the charge was destitute of good foundation. Only one other case of the kind, committed, or alleged to have been committed, by a foreigner, has been reported to the Government. n that case the accused evaded arrest, and was finally killed by natives whom he had injured, beyond the border, in German territory.

The other circumstance is that the Papuan soon shows a surprisingly good comprehension of the judicial process, and a keen sense of justice. The defence has often been raised by the natives that they did not, when a crime was committed, understand the law; or that they were not aware the Government really would insist on the law being obeyed. Several times, when a person has been sentenced to undergo capital punishment, messages have been sent to the head of the Government to the effect that they hoped he would remember that the convict was the first from the district. Accused persons have often in court called the attention of the judge to the fact that the evidence being given was hearsay only, and that the witness was not giving the testimony of an eye-witness. A number of the people of a large village met to consider the conduct of their Chief, who had asked exactions from them, failing which he had threatened them with the lock-up. They came to the conclusion that "there is only one road to the lock-up, and that lies through the Court," and that, therefore, the Chief was merely trying to impose on them. A chief sent his wife and daughter a day's journey to complain to the "Kovana" that the constabulary had broken a spear and killed a pig belonging to his tribe. Without the compensation that was paid, they seemed to understand that an injustice committed even by the constabulary would be rectified by the Government.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1891–2.

ADMINISTRATIVE VISITS OF INSPECTION.

The several despatches reporting in detail the results of the principal visits of inspection made during the year will be found in the Appendices marked A to L.* Here they are briefly summarised.

16. The time from the 13th July to the end of that month was devoted to a visit to the D'Entrecasteaux and Kiriwina Groups. It was found that the Wesleyan Mission were making great progress in erecting the dwelling-house for their headquarters at Dobu Island. The natives, though entertaining many strange suspicions with regard to the ultimate objects of their settlement there, were friendly and rendering good help to the missionaries in the work of building. The vessel that had brought the pioneer party of the Mission, with the Rev. G. Brown on board, was towed to an offing by the "Merrie England."

While the steamer was despatched to take Mr. Maitland, of the Queensland Geological Survey, and the Hon. M. H. Moreton, to examine Mount Suckling, the examination of the coast of Fergusson Island was made from Nadi to Bagiagia Island. It was observed that the large island is schistose where the high mountains exist, and elsewhere of volcanic origin. The population is extremely numerous, and were found to be friendly, but extremely timid where, in former days, some of them had been murdered and others kidnapped. In some districts all villages are inland, in others they are all on the coast. The reason for this distribution is not very apparent. There is no protecting reef, and anchorage for large vessels is not frequent on this coast. The country is very rough, densely wooded, and well watered. The tribes were not always friendly to one another.

On the 21st the Kiriwina (Trobriand) Group was reached. These are low coral islands with a population of probably 15,000 or 20,000. This appears to be the meeting place of the Polynesian and Papuan races. The people did not seem to be warlike. The tribes met with were friendly, without any exception. Here, it was noticed, the Chief occupies much the same position as he has in the Pacific Islands, being treated with respect, sometimes reverence. They are skilful workers of ebony, which grows on some of the islands, and their light soil produces great quantities of very fine yams. Mentally and physically, they are much superior to the natives of the mainland nearest to them. Three canoes of the natives of Sim Sim Island were met with at Kaduwaga, having come there to fish for the Kaduwaga people.

Whilst Kiriwina was being examined, the Resident Magistrate was sent on to visit Murua, Nada, and Egum, under instructions to deal with certain matters requiring attention. The state of the natives was reported as satisfactory at each place, but, owing to bad weather and other circumstances, the programme of work was only partially carried out in those islands.

* Not printed.

17. On the 7th August a start was made from Samarai with the intention of walking across from Tauwara (Milne Bay) to Pouro (Mullens' Harbour). It had been alleged at Sila-Sila and its neighbourhood that it was at the instigation of some of the tribes in that part of the country that Sila-Sila had murdered a native of Laimotu Village, in Orangerie Bay. The Maiwara district, the first traversed, was found to be orderly, many of the people being engaged in making copra. The two bays, Tauwara and Pouro, are separated by a ridge of lava and limestone about 800 feet high. The Pile-Pile tribe, on the west side of the range, was visited by the commandant, and found to be quiet and friendly. Making Sagara headquarters, the Commandant and a small detachment of constabulary visited many of the surrounding villages and were everywhere well received. Some dozen villages were visited in crossing the isthmus, the occupants of which, without exception, were found to be quiet and industrious. It was quite plain that they had nothing to do with the evil deeds of the Sila-Sila tribe. The latter had blamed them because they were at a distance, and, as they thought, out of my reach. The Tàmoro, Were-Were, and Dahune tribes received the party in a very friendly manner, without reserve or suspicion, all clearly recognising the supremacy of the Government. The same visit was extended to all the coast tribes of Orangerie Bay, as far east as Baibara Island. This country is flat near the sea. There is no shore reef in the bay except near its middle, at Gadaisu Village. All the tribes were friendly, and had already learned something of the Government. Two or three tribes in the east end of the bay, which had been formerly implicated in the murder of a European, were at first afraid, and kept aloof; but many of them visited the party, and brought it food before it left them.

The party taken by Messrs. Moreton and Maitland to Mount Suckling reached an altitude of about 7,000 feet. They found varying soil, but no mountain villages.

18. On the 1st September a visit to the Mekeo district was undertaken. At Ravao (Yule Island) news was received that the Inawaia tribe had attacked Inawabui, and killed several people, and had threatened to kill Bishop Verjus, and to put the Government at defiance. The Inawa tribe had also discharged arrows at the Government Agent. It had been foreseen that the powerful tribes of that district would not submit to Government authority without a preliminary struggle. On the 7th an advance party entered the village of Inawa. Some of the men "showed fight," but all fled when the leader and one or two others were wounded by rifle bullets. On the following day communication was opened with some of the same tribe at their own village.

19. Two days after, a visit was paid to the hostile tribe of Eboa, which had with Inawaia attacked Inawabui. They were in the act of holding a great feast to celebrate their recent victory, and were prepared to resist the Government. They were taken by

surprise and fled, but six prisoners were secured and safely removed to the Government Station. On the 12th a visit in force was made to the tribe of Inawaia. They had prepared for us by removing their property, women, and children. Hearing of the collapse of Inawa and Eboa, they were afraid to fight, and were distributed in small parties. No arrests were made. All the arms found in Inawa, Eboa, and Inawaia were burned.

On the 14th a party was sent to procure the arrest of a native of Maiva for the murder of a man of the neighbouring tribe of Kivori. These are powerful communities, whose hereditary inter-tribal hostilities had been stopped by the Government. The murder was a personal one; but the friends of the murderer concealed him, and all attempts to capture him failed. With great reluctance the Government saw itself forced to the expedient of arresting a number of men, and keeping them as hostages for the surrender of the murderer. He was delivered up next day. The village of Bereina was visited at the same time by the Government Agent. A defiant band of young men, who were armed and ready to fight, laid down their arms when summoned to do so. Their weapons were collected and burned, which sufficiently humiliated the tribe, greatly to the satisfaction of the resident teacher, who could previously do nothing with them. Several of the more powerful neighbouring chiefs came to the Government Station to cement friendly relations. A second visit was paid to Eboa on the 19th by the magistrate, and a man was arrested there for alleged murder at Inawabui. Bishop Verjus arrived at the station on the 19th, and said that his work would be greatly facilitated by the subjugation of the troublesome tribes.

On the 23rd a party, accompanied by several native chiefs, who expressed a desire to be there to help the Government, surprised Inawaia from the east side at daybreak. Six men were arrested, one of them the son of the Chief. The other men fled, leaving their arms in the village, which were collected and burned. A squad of a dozen prisoners, who had accompanied the party as carriers for an inland expedition, expressed a desire to assist the police as volunteers, and some of them rendered excellent service in that very unusual capacity.

20. Another visit was made to the Mekeo district on the 9th December. The villages of Akabara and Meauri were first visited, and found to be quiet and peaceful. A part of the Inawaia tribe were building a new village near the river, having separated themselves from the rest of the tribe, which was not of so peaceful a disposition. Two lay brothers of the Sacred Heart Mission were stationed with them. The rest of the tribe did not seem disposed to build there. The mission had done very good service in settling some of the tribes, especially Bishop Verjus, who ably used the circumstances to strengthen the influence of the mission, where formerly it was but of small account, at the same time that he was loyally helping in the establishment of peace and order. When Mr. Winter was acting as Deputy-Administrator

he had visited the district, and his party, when returning from a reconnaissance, came into contact with an encampment of the Inawaia tribe, who promptly attacked the constabulary, with a loss to themselves of on e man killed and two wounded. This encounter had also aided to establish a more peaceful disposition in this and the neighbouring tribes. The natives were now, on this visit, found somewhat uneasy, not knowing whether further punishment would be inflicted, or if the building of a new village would be approved. This and other tribes near them were re-assured by this visit, and the principal Chief of Inawaia came to the Government Station to present offerings of peace. All the leading men of the district soon came to the station to report themselves, and it was seen that the whole district was gradually subsiding into peaceful habits. The good work of Père Vitali at Inawi was seen, and much appreciated. A large and well-built church was fast approaching completion there. Visits were paid to the people remaining at the old village of Inawaia, and most of the people of Eboa came there to meet the party; but the chiefs of Inawaia and Eboa could not muster up courage to go to Inawabui to make peace, a task which was left to the War Chief of Inawaia alone. A beginning was, however, thus effected of establishing peaceful relations between these tribes. It was found that good work was being done by the Lay Brothers of the Sacred Heart Mission at Bioto and Pinapaka.

21. On the 17th December a visit of inspection of the coast east of Port Moresby was begun. The people of Kappa Kappa and Kaile were shifting their pile houses ashore. The former of these and the Hula tribe had planted many cocoanuts, others were beginning to prepare copra for the trader. There had been some difficulty in enforcing the Native regulation forbidding burial in the inhabited villages. The old enmity of Kalo and Kwaipo was completely at an end, and the former had also received visits from the nearest tribes of the interior. The Galoma (Aroma) district was found to be quiet, and it was clear that they were extending the area of their trading operations. The tribes about Mairu were found to be peaceful, but much inter-tribal disturbance was said to exist inland, in districts not visited by the Government. A new station of the London Missionary Society, which was being established at Kurere, on the mainland near Laraoro, was visited, and the work encouraged.

At Suau only a Samoan teacher was resident, the headquarters of this division of the London Missionary Society Mission having been transferred to Kwato, an excellent site for it, near Samarai.

On the 21st a call was made at East Cape. A Fijian teacher, of the Wesleyan Mission, was making a good commencement there, and all the villages seemed to be quiet and peaceful.

At Dobu the Wesleyan Mission had made much progress, but they could not build schools and churches until the planting season was over. Mr. Bromilow could already speak the Dobu language with considerable readiness, and he had gained an important influence

Mrs. Bromilow had a very successful sewing class of young girls. There was noticed much improvement in the demeanour of the natives, who had given up the practice of carrying arms. The Rev. A. Maclaren, of the Anglican Mission Station, had been left ill of fever at Samarai. A visit was paid to the station of that mission at Wedau; all was quiet in that neighbourhood. It was clear that Mr. Maclaren had been able to make a decided impression on the natives during the few months he had been among them.

On the 24th December the constabulary were landed at Bakera, on the coast of Duau, to try to secure the murderer of a European trader that had, for the sake of plunder, been killed there a few months previously. Friendly relations were speedily opened with neighbouring tribes, and the principal in the crime was arrested next day. A visit of inspection was extended, in a whaleboat with a native crew, right round the island, to establish relations with all the coast tribes, and to find out where there were anchorages, watering places, &c. The sketch chart of this journey is not yet quite completed. Many good anchorages were found, the most striking one being the inland harbour of Sewa, about half-way between Uruma (Duchess Island) and Dimadimwara (Cape Prevost). This haven has an entrance about a hundred yards wide, and then opens out in a sheet of water some three miles by four. The visit was well received by all the tribes seen on the coast, and parties of men came from the inland tribes to visit the Government boat. The south end of Duau is inhabited by a great many very industrious tribes, who, being more addicted to agriculture than to fighting, are very glad to be now freed from the hostile and oppressive raids of the Dubu tribes. They sell a great many yams to canoes trading from other islands. They were anxious to have teachers among them. Manifestly they were beginning to settle down in many districts, but there are still some fierce and barbarous tribes on this island which do not trade with natives from any other place.

22. On the 4th January the island of Sanaroa (Welle Island) was inspected. It had been reported by Dobu natives that Sanaroa was hostile to the Government and to the Mission. This was found to be a malicious invention to throw discredit on the Sanaroa people. The tribes there were seen to be very friendly towards Europeans of all kinds. The communities on and near Ketaupai Bay, on the neighbouring coast of Moratua, were visited and were found to be all living in harmony together, and to be on terms of friendship with Dobu and Baio, a state of matters widely different from that existing there three years ago. The Rev. W. Bromilow and the principal chiefs of Dobu and Baio joined the inspecting party on the 8th January. The first district visited was Basima, on the north-east coast of Moratau. The different tribes presented themselves without arms, and seemed to be settling down into quieter habits. They had manifestly heard about the new order of things. Next day the steamer passed between Wamea and Urasi, two islands of the Amphlett Group

and reached Kaduwaga, in the Kiriwina Group, by a route which presented clear and open water until the last-named islands were reached. The first service ever held in that group was performed by Mr. Bromilow, in Kaduwaga, on Sunday, the 9th. The audience was attentive, and must have considered the whole thing as very "uncanny." They, however, treated the missionary well, whether from goodwill or through awe of the unknown, it would be difficulty to say. Both there and at Kaibola the people were very quiet and friendly. No anchorage for the steamer could be found near Kaibola, but bottom was met with at Kaura Kuba, on the east side of the island, in five or six fathoms, and the steamer was anchored there while a visit was paid to Emaràkana, the seat of the great Chief of this group. He and his people treated the party with much kindness, and they produced the impression that they could be made useful and powerful agents in the work of civilisation. It was shown that there is only one village, Wamela, on the east coast of Kiriwina. There is a shore reef there, with a passage through it for boats and small craft. Large vessels can, in fine southern weather or in northern weather, anchor outside in six or eight fathoms. The natives there are friendly, as they are everywhere in that group. No anchorage could be discovered at Giriba, but the steamer anchored for the night in a bight on the south end of Vakuta Island, the natives of which were also friendly, some of them visiting the steamer. The 12th January was spent at Kitava island. It seems to be an elevated atoll, from 300 to 400 feet high, with an area of five or six square miles. There were thirteen villages in the depressed central plateau of the island, which is surrounded by a wooded, coral wall rim 50 to 100 feet high. They form a peaceful and industrious community, fond of trading and of carving in wood. From Kitava the steamer proceeded to Wamana, on the north of Murua (Woodlark Island). This influential tribe was somewhat agitated by party politics, some of them wishing to proceed in the path of progress and civilisation much faster than the more conservative elements were prepared to follow. Endeavours were made to reconcile their views and to establish harmonious working. Half-a-dozen of the Guasopu tribe, which were living as refugees at Wamana, were taken to Guasopu, with the object of establishing peace between them and the Wakoia tribe. When the villages of these latter were visited all fled, but after some trouble they were all induced to return to the principal village. The leading men expressed themselves as glad to have peace with the Guasopu tribe, and said the Government might be certain that they would live as friends in future. On the 18th and 19th the islands of Kwaiawata and Gawa were inspected. They seem to be raised atolls like Kitava; the tribes on them also live in the central plateau. There were some thirteen villages on Kwaiawata, and about a score of them on Gawa. The natives closely resemble those of Kitava. At Iwa Island no anchorage could be obtained. It seems to be of the same formation as the neighbouring islands mentioned above. Dugumenu Island was not then inhabited.

23. On the 26th January an inspection of part of the Louisiades was commenced. The Wesleyan Mission at Pannaetti, conducted by the Revs. Messrs. Fellowes and Watson, was making an excellent beginning. The Sabbath was already observed. The natives were spontaneously planting cocoanuts, and helping to build a church and establish the station on a very suitable site. They were timid and distrustful of the Government, because a murderer was at large among them. The Magistrate's quarters at Bogoya on Misima were visited, and it was decided to remove them to an island near Pannaetti. The Rev. Mr. Fellowes accompanied the party to Misima. Most of the villages of the south coast were visited, but the inhabitants often wished to avoid intercourse. This was mainly, if not entirely, owing to the fact that for petty acts of theft they had frequently been threatened with punishment from the Government. They were not unfriendly, and were, after some trouble, brought in. It was reported that the tribe of Gulewa, on the north coast of the island, had lately been extremely lawless. They had attacked and killed some people belonging to Hariba and Sagara, two neighbouring tribes. These had been restrained from retaliation chiefly by diggers Sanderson and Simpson, on the assurance that the Government would punish Gulewa.

A party was conducted across the island to come on Gulewa from behind, but the paths were watched by sentinels. The fighting men of the tribe fled when the critical moment came, and the village was occupied by the police; but, though they remained there for nearly two weeks, they were unable to secure any of the ringleaders in the disturbances, the failure being no doubt chiefly owing to the bad weather. Only some unimportant arrests were made, but it was felt that these would influence the conduct of the tribe, and that their prestige was destroyed. About the same time, on the main land, the Modewa tribe, which is under the influence of the London Missionary Society, surrendered to the constabulary three men charged with murder. In the absence of the Chief Magistrate on leave—the first granted to him since he entered the service—twelve men, committed for trial, were removed from Samarai to Port Moresby.

24. On the last day of February a visit to the western district of the Possession was begun. Mr. Cameron had effected, at very little public expense, great improvements at the station at Mabudauan. Substantial houses had been built, and land cleared and planted. Shortly before, the Sumai tribe had attacked the Domori islanders and killed a number of them. Mr. Cameron had very ably procured from the Sumai tribe the surrender of the two chiefs that conducted the expedition, but the tribe still remained unsettled and were not friendly to the Government. Mr. Cameron had wisely secured the co-operation of all the neighbouring tribes against Sumai. The natives of Mawatta and Turituri were clearly making steady progress, the native magistrates and police having turned out better than could have been expected. The settlers

on Yaru Island were hardly making a living, they not possessing the capital required to start them properly in fishing. At the village of Sui it was reported that Sumai had threatened them because they had sided with the Government when Sumai was contumacious. At Iăsa Village policemen and Government chiefs were appointed. The Sumai tribe declared, when visited, that they were not disposed to fight with the Government. They commenced at once to build a church and school, and they selected men who were appointed chiefs and village constables. The tribe was completely humbled, and in all probability will not cause further trouble. The Wiorubi tribe were visited. They were peaceful, but they were in civilisation much behind the tribes on the other side of the island. The large houses formerly seen on the Bamu River had been burned, and some of the communities of that district greatly disturbed by the Sisiamia tribe from the interior, according to report.

25. On the 11th March an examination of the coast was begun, extending eastward from the Bebea River. A dozen miles of a mangrove, uninhabitable shore separates the Bebea from the Gama River. The mouth of this latter offers good shelter for small craft. Its banks for the first dozen miles are covered by mangrove. There a tribe was met with in temporary encampment, but they would not communicate then. At thirty miles from the sea the land was still so low that most of the trees were of the mangrove family. There the party was suddenly attacked by a hostile tribe that seemed to have been engaged in clearing a piece of land on the river bank. Owing to a sharp bend in the river, they were not visible until the launch was close to them. They discharged their arrows from under cover within easy distance, and had to be driven out by the rifles of the party. They shifted ground and yelled defiance, but this was stopped when they discovered that one or two of their number had been hit. The patience, courage, and discipline of the native portion of the party was very satisfactory. The lower tribe, the Dabura, communicated freely on the return journey, and gave the name of the upper tribe as Sogeri. They resemble the Kiwai men in appearance, and understand some of their language. Half-a-dozen miles east of the Gama, an estuary was entered which, on the west side, is called Gawai. Between the Gama and the Gawai the country along the coast is all covered by mangrove. The Gawai possesses a numerous population, who live chiefly on sago. These tribes are powerful, and were inclined to be at first very suspicious and reserved, but afterwards assertive and uproarious. They, too, resemble the Kiwai natives. They called themselves Kiapakea. Half-a-mile further up there was another large community, with which also friendly relations were opened, but they were so numerous that great circumspection was deemed necessary in dealing with them. Their land grows much sago, some bread fruit, and other trees. From the river above Neabo Island, a large extent of flat country, all covered by wood, much of it mangrove, was visible all round; towards the north a low

British New Guinea. 1891-2.

range of wooded hills could be seen at about a score of miles, running east and west.

About thirty miles from the sea a strong tribe called Umaidai was met with, in two villages several miles apart. The lower division were very suspicious, and could not then be induced to communicate at close quarters. Some presents were left for them and they were quite friendly on the return journey. The upper division, after some difficulty, entered into trading relations with the party. They gave the name of the river—there about three-fourths of a mile wide—as Turama. The country was still too low for permanent occupation by Europeans. Further up the river the Wariada tribe left their village and fled to the bush, but some of them afterwards came up the river in canoes to the next tribe, called Tabara, which soon entered into friendly relations. Some men of that tribe went up stream to warn the next tribe, Wariatutu, of our approach. They were friendly from the first, and so were a number of men of the Pekai tribe, who came down the Gogowaia branch of the Turama. These tribes live on sago, and have affinities with the Fly Estuary people, knowing some words of their language, and building houses like those of the Bamu tribes. A heavy bore, which ascends the river once in twelve hours, was encountered in the Turama above Wariatutu. The country rises a little above Wariatutu, but it is still low. The river approaches to within five or six miles of the low range of hills, which appears to consist not of a single ridge, but to be the southern edge of a hilly nodulated plateau. Two deserted villages—the second about seventy-five miles from the sea—were met with, but no natives were seen. The houses in the two upper deserted villages were of the type of those on the Upper Fly River.

At about four score of miles from the sea the river was tidal, a couple of fathoms deep, and sixty yards wide. The banks were still low, but fit for cultivation here and there, All the natives were friendly on the return journey. In the descent the channel between Neabo and Morigio, about one or two fathoms, was used. No villages were seen on it. Towards the lower end of Morigio a large encampment of people from Haraga and Neabo was met with. Friendly relations were established with them. Morigio is nearly all mangrove. East of Morigio the first headland is the Risk Point of the charts, the next Cape Blackwood. Between the two latter there is a deep water channel by which the s.s. "Merrie England" entered, with a minimum depth of three and a-half to four fathoms at high water. All the projecting promontories are covered by mangrove. Mr. Cameron found the latitude of Cape Blackwood to be south 7 degrees 49 minutes 24 seconds, which appears to be the position assigned to it forty-seven years ago by Captain Blackwood.

On proceeding towards Port Bevan, on the east side of Ibibubari Island, the south end of which is Cape Blackwood, a party of the Paia tribe from Gaumao, which is on the east side of

Port Bevan, was met and communicated with. Ibibubari is unfit for permanent occupation, and so is the country all the way to the Aird Hills. These latter are about 900 feet high, and are very steep on all sides. They are surrounded by deep water, and beyond that by many miles of mangrove country. Mr. Cameron found the latitude of the Aird Hills to be south 7 degrees 27 minutes 33 seconds. Friendly relations were opened with some natives hunting there. There is no permanent occupation in that neighbourhood.

About half a dozen miles beyond the Aird Hills there are some low ridges that could be used for building purposes. Half a score of miles from the Aird Hills the river enters ranges of low fossiliferous limestone hills, which seem to be continuous with those seen on the Turama. The steam launch having broken down a few miles above the Aird Hills, a party proceeded up the river in a whaleboat. These were surrounded by about 300 bowmen in the Kikori River, and to escape destruction had to disperse the natives. This attack was made at a place where a large native force was drawn up to meet Mr. Bevan as he descended the same river when travelling there some years ago. The conduct of the Papuan constables on this occasion was most satisfactory.

On the 24th March the party went through the Aumotury Channel, and had friendly communication with the two large villages of Anawaida and Oteai, both on the south side of the passage. All the villages on the Omati River were then visited. They are all sago eaters, but some of them grow a few bananas, and some taro. The principal village is Baiaa, one of the largest in the Possession. The houses are of the Fly River pattern, and the men all armed with the bow and arrow. At Baiaa there are some cocoanut trees. There is a great deal of sago on the Omati. The natives were all armed and suspicious, but friendly communication was had with them all while the party was ascending the river. At about a score of miles from the sea it is about one hundred and fifty yards wide and two and a-half fathoms deep.

At about that spot the village of Naimesse was passed, its men coming out to trade. They did not carry their bows and arrows. A little beyond this place the Omati enters the low range of limestone hills, and breaks up into numerous small creeks. No natives were met with beyond Naimesse. A great fleet of canoes came out from Baiaa to meet the party as it descended. Manifestly they had not formed any plan of attack, many of them being in small canoes and unarmed, but some mischievous, disappointed individuals were detected in the act of drawing their bows to discharge arrows on the nearest of the party, and to frustrate them a few shots had to be fired at the bows of their canoes, but no person was hit, and the other natives, who were looking on, were not much scared by this occurrence.

On the 26th March, the Aird River, ascended by Captain Blackwood in 1845, was examined, and friendly communication was had with the two large villages of Neuri and Dubumabai, near its entrance on the east side, and later also with the village of Upua, on the opposite side. These are all sago-feeders. The

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1891–2.

Kikori was again ascended, and a visit paid to Tumu, a village on the left bank on the limestone hills. No natives were met on the Kikori, and friendly communication was had with Tumu, although they were extremely suspicious. It would be a favourable locality for the establishment of a station.

The country generally, from the Fly to Cape Blackwood, is too low and wet for European settlement. There is no communication between the Fly and Aird River tribes, but intercourse will now gradually be opened up between them. Except sago, the natives have little to offer as an article of export. Mr. Cameron's sketch map* gives a good idea of this part of the Possession.

26. When the examination of the western end of the gulf was completed it was decided to proceed west to the boundary with Dutch New Guinea, as this was about the time when the Dutch tribes cross the frontier to maraud along the western coast of the Possession.

On the 5th April a strong party started from Mabudauan, and went along the coast westward, carefully examining the old Tugeri camps on the way. It was clear that their halting-places on the Mai Kussa and Wasi Kussa had not been occupied for a year. A night was spent near the mouth of the Morehead, and next night was passed at sea opposite the boundary. No recent trace of the Tugeri tribes was seen.

The coast was examined by the party for nearly two score of miles past the boundary, but, to not violate Dutch territory, the boats had to keep about three miles off the land. No sign of permanent occupation was seen until a point some thirty or thirty-five miles west of the 141 degrees of east longitude was reached. Thereabout groves of cocoanut trees came into sight. According to some of the natives that took Mr. Montague west, they landed him at a village in that locality.

27. On the 5th June it was reported at Port Moresby that the Tugeri tribes had invaded the western end of the Possession, and had penetrated as far as Mabudauan. A start was made three days later for the west, with the object of repelling the marauders by force. It was found, on arrival at the station, that the invasion was no myth, that the Tugeri had come along the coast to that place, and had fled when they saw the constabulary turn out armed. Their traces were followed up as fast as possible by a strong party, but the flight of the Tugeri had been so precipitate that their return camp in Thomson Bay appeared to have been last occupied about a week or ten days before it was reached by us. It was clearly useless to continue the pursuit any further, as it was manifest they could not then be on the British side of the boundary. Not a native was seen on the coast between Mabudauan and Thomson Bay, as the pursuing party went west, so thorough is the depopulation effected by these ravaging tribes. As is well known, the sovereignty of the Netherlands is accepted as being in force

* Not printed.

in the western portion of New Guinea up to the 141st degree of east longitude. In consequence of this the authorities of the Possession cannot reach these people in their homes, which appear to be about two score of miles inside of Netherlands territory. Nothing whatever has been done by the Netherlands Government to restrain or to civilise these tribes, the incursions of which have been a most serious drawback to the work of administration generally, while they have been ruinous to the country that lies west of Mabudauan. This could easily be stopped were it not that the Tugeri are shielded by the sovereignty of the Netherlands.

GOVERNMENT PROPERTY AND WORKS

28. During the year the schooner "Hygeia" was laid up and sold, and a ketch of about a dozen tons was built to take the place of the schooner. Experience showed that the larger vessel cost about £1,700 a year, and that nothing was more clear than that the services performed by that craft were ridiculously out of proportion to the outlay. The ketch cost, before reaching her station, fully £600. It is anticipated that much more work will be performed by the smaller vessel, and at a greatly reduced expenditure.

Several pieces of land were purchased from natives, generally after it had been applied for by intending purchasers. Purchases of land from natives are seldom made, if not required for settlement by Europeans or others; but 3,000 or 4,000 acres bought near to Port Moresby remains in the possession of the Crown. It is chiefly grazing land.

29. The principal works executed during the year are mentioned in the reports of the officers appended hereto:—

At Mabudauan a fine roomy house was built for the constabulary, of timber sawn on the station. More land was cleared and planted, but it is not of good quality, so that the station could only with difficulty be made self-supporting. Among the maps* attached to this Report will be found one of the district from the Pahouri to the Oriomo, showing the course of those two rivers as far as they are navigable by boats, and giving the approximate positions of the several tribes occupying that part of the country. This map was prepared by Mr. Cameron.

At the Mekeo Government Station several acres have been cleared and planted, and now the establishment does not require to purchase vegetable food. House accommodation for the constabulary and for storage was built, with other outhouses. A well was sunk and properly fitted up with walling and gear. A substantial slab fence has been built round the station; and a large embankment has been made at the landing-place on the river. Many introduced plants of economic value have been successfully planted and tended there.

* Not printed.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA. 1891-2.

30. A detailed account of the work performed by the prisoners at Port Moresby will be found in the Report* of Mr. F. E. Lawes, Resident Magistrate for the district. It comprises road making, fencing, house-building, digging wells, clearing cocoanut plantations, and many other things. The planting of cocoanuts was continued near Port Moresby as far as means and opportunity permitted.

At Rigo Station a new well was dug and made serviceable A substantial prison and quarters for the constabulary were built, and the planting of cocoanuts was continued; there are now about 3,000 of these planted out. This station grew the vegetable food required for the constabulary, and supplied some for use at Port Moresby.

At Samarai a suitable church was built, food was planted, and several acres of land on the mainland cleared and planted with cocoanuts. The whole island is now planted. Very little work could be performed at the Magistrate's station at Bogoya, Misima, as the land obtainable there is limited in quantity. But a number of imported fruit trees are doing well about the station. Permanent buildings were not erected there, and the station is to be shifted to Nivani Island.

The Government has, in round numbers, planted altogether about 25,000 cocoanuts. It would be very greatly to the advantage of the future if the same rate of planting could be continued for the next ten years.

A great drawback to the introduction of economic plants is the fact that the soil at Port Moresby is not well suited for such a nursery. There is want of shade and of water there. The Government station at Mekeo is in every way well adapted to such a purpose, but it is at an inconvenient distance from the port, and there is often much risk in transporting tender plants there.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

31. Officers employed in the service of the Government on the 30th June last were as follows:—

Office.	Name.	Date of assuming Office.	Emoluments per Annum.
	Port Moresby.		
Administrator - -	Sir William MacGregor, M.D., K.C.M.G.	4th September 1888 -	1,500*l.* and 200*l.* allowance.
Private Secretary -	Hon. M. H. Moreton -	7th November 1890 -	300*l.*
Chief Judicial Officer -	Hon. F. P. Winter, C.M.G.	24th October 1888 -	1,000*l.*
Government Secretary -	Hon. A. Musgrave -	4th September 1888	500*l.* and 200*l.* allowance.

The above are provided for by the sums reserved to Her Majesty by the Letters Patent.

* Not printed.

Office.	Name.	Date of assuming Office.	Emoluments per Annum.
	Port Moresby—continued.		
Treasurer - -	The Hon. T. H. Hatton-Richards.	1st October 1890 -	300*l.*
Commandant Constabulary.	George Wriford - -	1st October 1890 -	300*l.*
Government Printer -	J. G. Allen - -	4th September 1888	300*l.*
Government Storekeeper	A. W. Butterworth -	9th October 1890 -	200*l.*
Gaoler and Overseer -	Dennis Gleeson - -	4th September 1888	250*l.*
Government Surveyor -	J. J. Cobon - -	18th July, 1891 -	450*l.*
Assistant Surveyor -	R. J. Kennedy - -	18th July, 1891 -	100*l.*
	Samarai.		
Sub-Collector of Customs	David Ballantine - -	25th July 1889 -	225*l.*
	Magisterial.		
Resident Magistrate, Eastern Division.	James Martin Hennessy -	1st April 1892 -	400*l.* and 50*l.* allowance.
Resident Magistrate, Louisiades.	Henry Neville Chester -	30th October 1891 -	300*l.*
Resident Magistrate, Central Division.	Hon. F. E. Lawes -	28th October 1890 -	250*l.*
Resident Magistrate, Western Division.	Hon. B. A. Hely - -	21st October 1888 -	500*l.*
	Government Agents.		
Rigo District - -	A. C. English - -	28th June 1890 -	250*l.*
Mekeo District - -	C. Kowald - - -	9th October 1890 -	200*l.*
	S.S. "Merrie England."		
Master - - -	John A. Young - -	29th April 1892 -	300*l.*
Chief Engineer - -	Henry Phillips - -	8th August 1889 -	252*l.*

32. The Chief Judicial Officer was some three months on leave of absence from the Colony. No sittings of the Central Court were held during that period. The Government Secretary was absent on leave after the end of February. The duties of that officer were very efficiently discharged by Mr. Richards, in addition to his own particular functions. Mr. Winter attended to the local audit during the absence of Mr. Musgrave. Mr. Hely was on vacation leave for three months, but was detained by illness to the end of the year beyond the Possession. Mr. Lawes was also granted vacation leave for three months, but did not take advantage of the full term.

33. No case of serious illness occurred; but most of the officers had slight attacks of fever.

34. The armed constabulary lost two men during the year, both Solomon Islanders. One of them committed suicide when

suffering from mental aberration; the other died in hospital at Brisbane, of typhoid fever according to report, when on the way to Sydney to bring up the new lugger.

35. It is much to be regretted that the funds at the disposal of the Government do not permit of any further extension of the Civil Service of the Possession. Government Agents are wanted —one in the Western District, another in the Gulf of Papua, one in the Mairu District, one on the North-east Coast, and one at Kiriwina. This would involve an additional expenditure of nearly £2,000, and therefore cannot at present be undertaken. If these appointments could be made, the whole coast line of the Colony would soon be completely under control. In last year's Report it was stated that the coast line of the mainland is 1,320 miles, and that of the islands 1,070 miles. But more accurate measurements give a total coast line for the Possession of 3,664 statute miles—1,728 on the mainland, and 1,936 on the islands. If this length of line is remembered, the number of officers desired in order to bring it under authority will be considered to be very moderate. It has not been felt that the present time is so prosperous as to justify any actual request for increased expenditure. The most rigid economy is necessary to make ends meet with the establishments constituted as at present.

36. The employment of the natives of the country as boatmen, policemen, gaol warders, &c., has been persevered with, and the results may be considered satisfactory. It is equally advantageous as a means of education for a considerable number of natives, and as an arrangement that is economical for the Treasury.

The number of men employed as policemen in their own villages is being slowly but steadily added to. The plan has been so successful that some legislation will be proposed soon to put them on a regular and legal footing, as the experiment has proceeded sufficiently far to show that the village police can be made a very useful and important service, while its cost will be very little.

METEOROLOGY.

37. Stations for meteorological observations have been established at Port Moresby, Samarai, Mekeo, and Mabudauan. Unfortunately, complete records can hardly be procured except at Port Moresby, owing to the fact that officers at other stations are often necessarily absent from their headquarters on other duties. At Mekeo the observations have been undertaken by the Rev. Père Vitali, of the Sacred Heart Mission. The records of observations were forwarded to Mr. Wragge, Government Meteorologist of Queensland, who has kindly prepared the report and tables annexed hereto as Appendix V.*

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* Not printed.

From the tables it will be seen that the mean atmospheric pressure for the year 1891, at Port Moresby, taken at 9 a.m., was 29·919.

The grand mean temperature for the year was 83·0°. The highest shade temperature for the year, 96·2°, was registered on the 2nd February; the lowest, 72°, on the 27th August, giving an extreme range of temperature of 24·2°. The difference between the mean minimum and the mean maximum temperature of the month is greatest about the change of winds, 11·4° in April and May, and 11·25° in October and November.

The rainfall for the year was 72 inches, of which fully 53 inches fell in the first five months of the year; only 2 inches fell in the last three months. It rained on 95 days.

The figures for Samarai cover twelve months, from April, 1891, to March, 1892. The rain measured there amounted to 126·5 inches, and it fell on 174 days. During the three months of July, August, and September 59 inches were recorded at Samarai, and only 15 inches fell during the same period at Port Moresby, Mugula (Dufaure Island) is the locality where the Port Moresby and Samarai climates seem to meet.

At Port Moresby the wind blows generally from the north-west from January to April inclusive, at other times from the south-east. But further west, where free of the mountain ranges, it comes more generally from the west or south-west than from the north. In the east end a south-west wind is probably the most frequent one from December to April.

The rainfall for Mabudauan, as marked in the tables, 53·5 inches, merely indicates the measurements actually made, and does not represent the rainfall for the year.

TRADE.

Imports.

38. The total of Imports entered at Port Moresby and Samarai respectively, has been:—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888-89 - -	6,016 0 0	5,019 0 0	11,108 0 0
1889-90 - -	6,798 0 0	9,305 0 0	16,104 0 0
1890-91 - -	7,455 0 0	8,075 0 0	15,530 0 0
1891-92 - -	10,379 0 0	13,377 0 0	23,756 0 0

The principal items were :—

	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
	£	£	£	£
Food stuffs - -	5,400	7,124	4,463	6,037
Drapery - -	1,185	1,392	1,457	2,133
Tobacco and cigars -	996	1,290	2,354	3,257
Hardware - -	927	1,123	1,535	2,677
Beverages - -	805	1,143	688	890
Clothes - -	550	190	255	705
Building materials -	246	1,086	1,224	1,965
Other articles -	999	2,756	3,554	6,091
Total -	11,108	16,104	15,530	23,755

The increase on tobacco is an indication of the more extensive employment of natives, who are, to a large extent, paid for work in that article. The quantity of building materials has been brought about by the additional settlement of Europeans in the Possession.

Exports.

The total value of exports, as entered at the Custom-house, has been :—

Year.	Samarai.	Port Moresby.	Total.
	£	£	£
1888-89 - -	5,071	871	5,943
1889-90 - -	5,458	997	6,455
1890-91 - -	7,678	755	8,134
1891-92 - -	8,099	3,190	11,289

In the above figures for 1891-92 there is included an export of 894 ounces of gold, valued at 2,995*l.*; but, through the kindness of Mr. Burkitt, the quantity of gold entered at Cooktown from New Guinea during the year can be stated here. It was 1,235 ounces, which would have been worth at least 4,322*l.*

That the produce of gold is falling off is shown by comparison with previous years.

Gold entered at the Custom-house, Cooktown, from the Possession, has been :—

——	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
Ounces - -	3,850	3,470	2,426	1,235
Value - -	£14,387	£12,440	£8,371	£4,322

During the year there were about two score of diggers, on an average, on each of the islands of Misima and Tagula. Only the men that are acclimatised, that know the natives, and can employ them as labourers, carriers, &c., can make a living. The alluvial washing is apparently now at an end.

Like gold, the bêche-de-mer fishery has been decreasing in value as an export, as shown by comparing the exports of different years. The produce of this fishery for the last four years has been :—

Export of Bêche-de-Mer.

——	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
Tons - -	38½	70¼	64¼	49
Value - -	£2,178	£4,682	£5,030	£3,401

As an industry this fishery cannot at any time assume much larger permanent importance.

There was some revival in the pearl-shell fishery, the figures showing a value of 542*l.* as against 85*l.* for the preceding year. The difficulty connected with this fishery continues to be, not the absence of good shell, but the too great depth of the water in which it is found. Copra will, undoubtedly, soon become the principal export. At present this industry is in its infancy, but in a few years it will be of great importance, and it will have the special advantage over gold, pearl shell, and bêche-de-mer of giving a perennial yield, which cannot but grow with time.

The copra exported has been :—

1888-89 - -	76 tons, valued at		550*l.*
1889-90 - -	43	„ „	250*l.*
1890-91 - -	198	„ „	1,433*l.*
1891-92 - -	340	„ „	2,084*l.*

The profits derived from this export do not appear to be considerable under present arrangements freight being too costly ; but no

doubt that will after some time be remedied, when copra-making will speedily increase.

It will be noticed that 42 tons of of sandal-wood were exported, valued at £290. This export will be of some use for a few years until more permanent articles of production are made available, but it will not last long in any one district, and that which is nearest the coast will soon be exhausted.

Shipping

39. No foreign shipping visited the Possession during the year. The total number of foreign-going vessels that entered during the twelve months was thirty-two, of 3,443 tons; clearances were twenty-two, of 2,226 tons. Two sailing vessels traded regularly—one from Cooktown, chiefly to the east end of the Possession, and the other from Thursday Island, to the central districts.

Postal.

40. As indicated in paragraph 7, the Possession joined the Universal Postal Union during the year, but without thereby in any way changing its relations and arrangements with the Queensland Department. Postal business has been as follows:—

Article.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.
Letters received - -	2,366	3,166	2,664	4,393
Letters despatched - -	2,587	2,586	2,191	3,917
Packets received - -	93	111	142	43
Packets despatched - -	98	84	88	78
Newspapers received - -	4,071	6,844	6,042	8,505
Newspapers despatched - -	574	590	468	756

MISSION WORK.

41. The principal event during the year in regard to Mission work was the commencement of operations by the Wesleyan Church. Their first party arrived from Sydney, accompanied by the Rev. George Brown, in the month of June, 1891, and promptly set about establishing themselves on Dobu. In a surprisingly short time a substantial dwelling-house was built there, and South Sea Island teachers were stationed in a number of native villages. Four European ministers and some two dozen native teachers formed the first party. The Chairman of the Mission is the Rev. W. Bromilow, who had, from the first, a very able and devoted helper in Mrs. Bromilow. Besides the headquarters of the Mission at Dobu Island, a Mission was opened at Pannaetti, under the management of the Rev. Mr. Fellowes. Native teachers were

stationed among several tribes on the islands of Dobu, Moratau (Fergusson), Duau (Normanby), Pannaetti, Pannapompon, Misima, Wari, and at East Cape, on the mainland. The progress achieved in settling and housing the teachers put in clear relief the energy and activity of the Mission. The work done among the natives was, in all probability, as great as, if not greater than, has ever been accomplished by any new mission among people equally barbarous in the same space of time. The moment had come for the commencement of Mission work in that part of the Possession. The most powerful of the tribes were beginning to perceive that a new force—the Government—was making its presence and power felt among them. Some time before the arrival of the Mission, Dr. Loria stopped a head-hunting expedition which was leaving Dobu, by threatening to report the matter to the Government if they proceeded any further. They had, when the Mission was opened, reached the stage when bad advice might have brought them into serious collision with the Government, or when wise counsel would be of infinite value to them. The Mission has so ably and loyally utilised the opportunity that, if their work is continued with the devoted earnestness with which it has been begun, the social and moral position of all the islands will in a very few years be changed beyond recognition.

42. The Anglican Mission, which had taken up as its field the north-east coast from Cape Ducie to Mitre Rock, was completely stunned by the death of the Rev. A. Maclaren, at the end of the year. He was possessed of all the high qualities that seemed necessary to make a man a great missionary among such a people—enthusiasm, originality, and strong sympathy. High hopes were entertained as to the work he and his Mission would be able to accomplish among the native tribes. His death was a very serious public loss. Under the management of the Rev. C. King, the Mission-house at Wedau has been completed, and all is now prepared at the station for the reception of other workers. Mr. King has established services and a school for the natives nearest the station.

43. The London Missionary Society, the pioneer mission of the Possession, made considerable progress in opening new stations and in improving the old ones. In the east end several new teachers were placed by the Revs. A. Walker and C. W. Abel, and they have built and constructed a model station at Kwato as the headquarters of their district.

The Rev. W. Pearse also took up more ground with new teachers, and had one of the Gospels translated into the Kerepunu tongue and printed, with some useful school-books. The Rev. Mr. Dauncey had for a large part of the time the whole of the Motu district under his care. Some new stations were taken up in that district also. The Rev. W. G. Lawes saw, during the year, the completion of his great task—the translation into the Motu tongue, and the publication, of the New Testament. Time and experience will show that this has been done in a most able and scholarly manner. In the Motu Motu district the Rev. James Chalmers has

British New Guinea. 1891–2.

perseveringly continued his work among the impulsive and boisterous tribes of that country. He has unquestionably been a powerful factor in diminishing quarrels and bloodshed in that part of the Possession. During the year he also began to take in hand the nearly extinct Fly River Mission, which greatly needed the directing influence of a man of the experience, courage, and energy of Mr. Chalmers.

44. Much progress was made by the Sacred Heart Mission during the year in the Mekeo district, under the superintendence of Bishop Verjus. Working loyally and harmoniously with the Government, Bishop Verjus was able, by his energy and wisdom, to render assistance to the officers of the Government in resettling some of the tribes of the district after the intertribal conflict which necessitated the forcible interference of the Government, and at the same time to strengthen the position of the Mission with the natives of the locality. Several new stations were opened during the year. That under Père Vitali, at Inawi, made remarkably satisfactory advancement. He built a large, substantial, handsome church, of which the Inawi people are not a little proud.

There is good reason to believe that all the more important tribes on the south coast will, before long, be more or less under missionary influence. The largest gap is at present in the Gulf of Papua, but that will, in all probability, speedily be reduced by the means for travelling now being provided for Mr. Chalmers. The four Missions now at work will, in a few years, practically cover all the coast line, but it will probably be several decades before all the inland tribes are supplied with teachers.

Land.

45. A few applications were received during the year for the purchase of land for European settlement, but the smallness of the number was very disappointing. Practically all that were made were complied with.

A surveyor was employed during the year, and the first Crown Grant was issued shortly before the end of the twelve months.

A considerable number of claims to land were dealt with, but these can better be reported on after the Crown Grants have been issued for them.

Prisons.

46. No department of the Administration has been more successful than that of prisons. There are now prisons at Mabudauan, Mekeo, Port Moresby, Rigo, and Samarai.

There are some half-dozen long-sentence prisoners at Mabudauan, in addition to which there are casual cases waiting for trial or serving sentences of a few days imprisonment under the Native Regulations.

Half-a-dozen long-sentenced men have also been sent to the Mekeo Station on account of their labour, and a similar number

have been transferred to the Rigo Station for planting, growing food, &c.

The chief prison still remains at Port Moresby. Fifty-six persons were received into prison there, and forty were transferred or discharged. There was no death. The maximum number in gaol was thirty-four, the minimum fourteen.

This prison has been, in its management, all that could reasonably have been desired. In consequence of the strict discipline, the regular hours of labour and of rest, the daily school lessons, the services of a chaplain on Sunday, and, above all, the firmness, steadiness, and kindness of Mr. Dennis Gleeson, head gaoler, who takes a deep personal interest in each individual prisoner, this prison has become a very valuable educational and civilising institution. In several districts returned prisoners are the firm and sure supporters of the Government.

The two great difficulties—an excessive mortality, and the incessant escape of prisoners—that had at first to be contended with have been completely overcome.

The state of health in the Samarai prison was very satisfactory. Sunday services are held there by members of the London Missionary Society from the neighbouring island of Kwato. The number of prisoners kept there is not, as a rule, over a dozen or fifteen. The two principal prisons were several times inspected during the year, and were found to be clean and well kept. The buildings are substantial and suitable in every way.

Finance.

Revenue.

47. The amount of revenue paid into the Queensland Treasury by the Possession during the year was 4,783*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* It is compared below with that of the three preceding years :—

Items.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Customs dues - -	2,419 10 2	2,893 10 4	2,525 13 2	4,428 14 11
Goldfield receipts -	187 17 0	20 15 0	23 0 0	24 0 0
Fees, shipping and court	1 18 0	4 10 0	4 3 0	10 14 0
Fines - - -	25 13 6	41 10 0	46 5 0	34 0 0
Licenses - - -	2 0 0	11 0 0	21 0 0	136 15 0
Miscellaneous - -	42 13 2	44 8 0	53 18 2	149 12 6
Total - -	2,679 11 10	3,015 13 4	2,673 19 4	4,783 16 5

A very considerable increase will be noticed under Customs dues. It has arisen without any change in the tariff, and is a result of growth in trade and settlement.

Expenditure.

48. The full sum of 15,000*l.* available for the current Administrative services for the year, was expended. The actual expenditure is classified below, and compared with that of previous years:—

Head of Expenditure.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	1891–92.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Civil List salaries -	2,633 19 7	3,300 0 0	3,290 12 8	3,300 0 0
Other salaries - -	1,796 0 6	2,381 18 6	3,476 10 5	3,559 2 0
Vessels and boats -	2,747 11 4	2,564 3 0	2,938 16 3	2,993 6 5
Allowances—house and travelling — for all officers.	1,296 13 11	2,548 3 2	1,500 0 0	1,356 0 5
Buildings - -	185 1 10	1,144 19 3	979 0 8	780 10 1
Agriculture - -	2 10 0	137 11 9	355 9 2	335 12 3
Mail service - -	445 0 0	—	—	—
Miscellaneous - -	1,662 14 1	2,898 9 8	2,459 10 10	2,675 8 10
Total - -	10,769 11 3	14,975 5 4	15,000 0 0	15,000 0 0

The full amount voted was expended on Civil List salaries. On other salaries there was a saving of 165*l.* 18*s.*, which arose from temporary vacancies in certain offices. On vessels and boats there was an excess of expenditure of 471*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* This arose from the necessity of obtaining a vessel fit for sea, for the use of the Resident Magistrate in the Eastern Division, to replace the "Hygeia" when laid up for sale. An excess of 180*l.* was necessary on buildings. A strong and fire-proof room had to be built for important records, and the female prison at Port Moresby had to be reconstructed, while some extra expense was incurred on buildings at the Rigo Station. A considerable sum had to be expended on repairs.

Exploration Fund.

49. The year began with a credit to this account of 717*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* Of this, 208*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* was expended, leaving a balance of 509*l.* 5*s.* at the end of the year. The expenditure charged to this account was mainly in connection with the geological examination made

of part of the Possession, and in payment of an engineer for the launch "Ruby" when examining the west end of the Gulf of Papua.

S.S. "Merrie England."

50. The total expenditure in connection with the s.s. "Merrie England" was 7,469*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, but 534*l.* 11*s.* of this was covered by refunds and earnings, leaving a net expenditure of 6,934*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*, or 5*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* less than for the preceding twelve months. As was the case for the previous year, the Imperial Government gave 5,000*l.* and the contributing Colonies 2,000*l.* for the maintenance of the steamer.

During the year the "Merrie England" used 701 tons of coal, and ran about 15,000 miles.

Native Dialects.

51. Of the progress made in studying the native dialects during the year, only two results are given here—vocabularies of the Kiriwina and Dobu languages—which will be found as Appendix U.*

The former is of special interest on account of the position of that group, between the mainland of New Guinea and the Pacific islands that lie to the east of Kiriwina. There has been much difficulty in obtaining any considerable knowledge of this language, owing to the all but complete absence of interpretation of any kind.

The Dobu vocabulary is of great value. It has been prepared by the Rev. W. Bromilow, the Chairman of the Wesleyan Mission, who knows this language far better than any other European. It is, as printed, sufficiently extensive for all practical purposes, and its accuracy can be relied on. In all probability it will become the literary, and in that way the general, native language of the D'Entrecasteaux Group and of some of the neighbouring islands.

Scientific Contributions.

52. A good deal of the scientific work undertaken during the year remains in an uncompleted form, and cannot be included in this Report. Mr. A. Gibb Maitland, of the Queensland Geological Survey, visited the Possession, and he has since prepared an elaborate report of great value and interest. Mr. Maitland has dealt with the whole subject of the Geology of the Possession as far as it is known, reviewing the work of previous observers and adding thereto his own observations and studies. In this way he has produced a Report that will serve as a point of departure for all future geological work in connection with the Possession.

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* Not printed.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS.

53. The several Reports* by officers, comprised in Appendices O to R hereto, will be found to be well worth perusal. Mr. Lawes shows that the natives of the Central district were unusually comfortable during the year, and that much planting was carried on by them. Trade between natives and Europeans, and the planting of cocoanuts, also made satisfactory progress there. Many claims to land were investigated. He also gives a detailed account of the work performed by prisoners in the district. In one or two districts ground has been temporarily lost among quiet but suspicious tribes.

Mr. Morton's Report on the Eastern Division is of special importance, as there was no report on that division in last year's Annual Report. The favourable opinion he formed of the conduct, disposition, and receptive faculties of the natives is very encouraging. He found them "most amenable to order." The enumeration of improvements carried out during Mr. Moreton's term of office will show that prisoners were not allowed to be idle at Samarai.

Mr. Kowald's Report* on the Mekeo district gives a fairly correct idea of the work carried on there by the Government Agent. It shows that peace has been established among all the powerful tribes living under his jurisdiction, as at present constituted, and that the cultivation of new products is likely to be of much importance.

Mr. A. C. English shows that the tribes of his district have been settling down into peaceful communities, some of which have been preparing large cocoanut plantations. There was, during the year, no case of murder in his district; up to two years ago murder was an extremely common occurrence in that locality.

Owing to the change of officers in the Louisiades and in the Western Division, there are no specific reports from those districts.

GENERAL.

54. The usual yearly visit was made by me to Brisbane for the despatch of business there. During that interval Mr. Winter acted as Deputy-Administrator in the Possession, and very efficiently performed the duties of that office.

The usual kind assistance of the Government of Queensland was given in refitting s.s. "Merrie England," which was done under the general supervision of Captain Almond, Portmaster, and of Mr. Stewart, Engineer. The Possession had also to thank Sir Samuel W. Griffith, Premier of Queensland, for the services of other departments of the Government, as well as for

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* Not printed.

assistance in many matters of general business to which he gave personal attention.

55. The Government of the Possession is under a great obligation to Mr. A. McDowall, the Surveyor-General of Queensland, and to Mr. R. H. Lawson, Chief Draughtsman, for the very great amount of trouble they have taken in having prepared the many sketch maps of different parts of the Possession got ready for this Report and for other purposes. Mr. McDowall has, with the greatest courtesy and kindness, performed many other useful services for the Possession, in procuring and forwarding instruments and other articles. Without his co-operation, the geography of the colony could not have been nearly so well known as it is now.

56. In the month of December Sir Samuel Griffith paid a short visit to the Possession, and saw the coast from Hall Sound to Wedau on the north-east coast, and also something of the islands at the east end of the mainland. This is the first visit that has been paid to the Colony by any member of the Governments of the contributing Colonies. It is an event of so much importance in the history of the Possession that Sir Samuel Griffith's despatch to Your Excellency on this visit should clearly be included in this Report. It will be found as Appendix W.*

It has always been felt by me that the Government of the Possession will be the stronger the better its work and aims are known to the Colonies that contribute the funds required to carry on the Administration. To make all Administrative proceedings as well known as has been practicable, full details have been from time to time supplied to Your Excellency in despatches from myself; but occasional visits, like that of Sir Samuel Griffith, by one of the leading statesmen representing the Colonies specially interested, cannot but be of the greatest value in conveying to the Colonial Governments and to the Secretary of State just ideas of the needs and circumstances of the Possession, and cannot fail at the same time to strengthen the hands of the Administrator. It should also not be lost sight of that the present arrangements for the government of the Possession will remain in force for less than six years, and that then the whole question of the future Administration of the country will come up for reconsideration. On this account also it is very necessary that at least a certain number of Australian statesmen should possess local knowledge of the country.

57. The results of native administration appear, on the whole, fairly satisfactory for the year. In not a few districts natives are settling down to more systematic work in preparing exports for the trader. In certain others they have planted out very considerable quantities of cocoanuts for their own use and profit. In some of the districts where native murders were fearfully common

* Not printed.

two or three years ago, this crime has completely disappeared or become very rare. No doubt what in these days may be called "much time" is required to acquaint the Papuan tribes with the working of Government and the impartial and beneficial action of law. But they possess an aptitude for such tuition which cannot but appear to be extraordinary to any person acquainted with the history of civilisation among the present existing cultured races of our globe. If the Papuans are allowed anything like a reasonable time—a time which, compared to that required for such a purpose by other races, would be a very short period—there can be no doubt that they will become a very considerable, if not an important, unit in the Australasian dominions of the Queen.

During the year there was manifested a greater tendency on the part of the few non-native residents in the Possession to form plantations of cocoanut trees, &c. Every possible facility has been given to these men to encourage them to plant, and a few have taken advantage of the position and have made fair commencements; but there is great want of a number of men with some capital and a sufficient knowledge of the different branches of tropical agriculture, to introduce new industries and to show to the natives the results of steady application under the peace and order of civilisation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. MACGREGOR,
Administrator.

His Excellency Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.
Governor of Queensland.

No. 2.

The MARQUESS OF RIPON to Sir H. W. NORMAN.

SIR, Downing Street, February 8, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 7th December last forwarding the Annual Report of the Administrator of British New Guinea for the year 1891-2.

I entirely concur in the view expressed both by yourself and by Sir Samuel Griffith as to the value of the work which is being performed by Sir Wm. MacGregor within the Possession.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RIPON.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

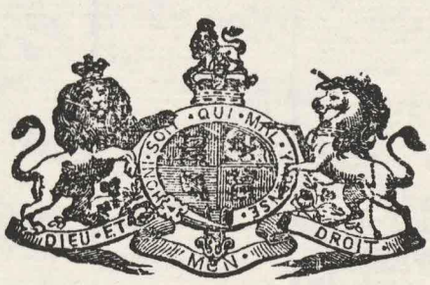
No. 70.

RODRIGUES.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 40.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-20.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 70.

RODRIGUES.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 40.)

The MAGISTRATE of RODRIGUES to the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Rodrigues Magistracy,
24th June 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, my Annual Report for 1891. I have entered into rather lengthy details, as numerous errors have been made in my last year's report (errors for which I cannot account). The present one will, I hope, enable the Honourable the Auditor General, whose totals of expenditure and Revenue for 1890 are correct, to see the difference in the items between the books of this office and those of the Audit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. H. COLIN,
Magistrate.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Mauritius.

I.—TAXATION.

No change was made in the taxation of this island during the year 1891.

II.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.
The real revenue of 1891, (exclusive of Customs and sums collected in Mauritius) was - -	5,829.32
Showing an increase of - -	1,150.38
On the revenue of 1890, which was -	Rs. 4,678.94

I 75840. Wt. 10230.

RODRIGUES. 1891.

	Rs.
The expenditure of 1891, under estimates and special votes (without including payments made in Mauritius) was - -	21,746.37
Showing an increase of - -	1,168.39
On the expenditure of 1890, which was - - - -	Rs. 20,577.98

The ratio of the revenue to the population of 1891 was Rs. 2.77 and a fraction per head. The ratio of the expenditure was Rs. 10.36 and a fraction per head.

The principal heads of revenue were:—Land rent, dog tax, pasturage dues, licenses, fines and forest revenue.

The increase of expenses is to be chiefly attributed to—increase of salaries, repairs to boats, payment of vaccination fees for 1890,—arrears of increments paid to Mr. Ternel, quarantine expenses and census.

III.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

The cost of establishments in 1890 and 1891 shows the following differences:—

	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.
Salaries - - - - -	14,309.67	17,017.86
Allowances - - - - -	1,117.80	1,115.49
Total - - - -	15,427.47	18,133.35

IV.—PENSIONS.

Rs. 1,336.32 were expended for pensions in 1891 and a similar sum in 1890.

V.—MAGISTRACY.

The magistrate's salary paid at Rodrigues amounted to Rs.3,999.96 in 1891, against Rs.1,952.43 in 1890.

The magistrate acts also as postmaster (*Vide* Post Office).

The magistrate's travelling expenses were Rs.106.44 in 1890, and Rs.159.00 in 1891.

The magistrate has a residence given him by Government and is allowed a Government labourer who receives Rs.240.00 per annum.

The stationery, books, &c., for the office are sent from Mauritius.

VI. —POST OFFICE.

The revenue collected in 1891 for postage and commission on money orders was Rs.139.66 and Rs.158.64 in 1890.

The letters received were 811 in 1891 and 125 in 1890—newspapers 554 in 1891 and 327 in 1890.

The money orders drawn on Mauritius amounted to Rs.12,219.31 in 1891, and to Rs.15,826.46 in 1890.

Orders were drawn on Rodrigues to the value of Rs.583 in 1891, against Rs.393.79 in the preceding year.

The expenditure amounted to Rs.120 in 1891, and to Rs.76 in 1890 (Postmaster's salary).

VII.—STAMPED PAPERS AND LICENSES AND INTERNAL REVENUE STAMPS.

The following revenue was derived from the above in 1890 and 1891 :—

	1890.	1891.
	Rs.	Rs.
Stamped papers - - - -	158.66	148.43
Receipt stamps - - - -		
Stamps for bills of lading - - -		
Trade licenses - - - -	1,230.75	1,265.00
Game licenses - - - -		
Total - - - -	1,389.41	1,413.43

showing a difference of Rs.24.02 in favour of 1891.

VIII.—EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

The exports exclusive of specie amounted to Rs.42,173 against Rs.63,852.65 in 1890, showing a decrease of Rs.21,679.65.

The imports amounted to Rs.110,073.96, against Rs.131,283.45 in 1890, showing a decrease of Rs.21,209.49.

The rate of export per head of population was Rs.20.10 and a fraction in 1891, against Rs.31.76 and a fraction in 1890.

The rate of import Rs.52.46 and a fraction against Rs.65.31 and a fraction in 1890.

RODRIGUES. 1891.

IX.—SHIPPING.

Under this head the year 1891 compared with 1890 shows the following differences :—

1890.		1891.	
Inwards - -	8	Inwards - - -	6
Outwards - -	8	Outwards - - -	5

The subsidy for postal communication between Mauritius and Rodrigues (1890 and 1891) was paid in Mauritius.

X.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of this Dependency on the 31st December 1890 was - - - - - -		2,010
Number of births in 1891 - -	109	
„ arrivals „ - - -	52=161	
Number of deaths in 1891 - -	22	
„ departures „ - -	51=73	
Increase in 1891 - - - - - -		88
Population on the 31st December 1891 - -		2,098

The birth-rate shows a decrease of births in 1891, if compared with the previous year.

The death-rate a decrease of 58 deaths.

There were no still-births in 1891 and three in 1890.

Nineteen marriages were celebrated in 1891 and 44 in 1890.

There were no marriages " in articulo mortis " in 1891, against seven in 1890.

A sum of Rs.400 was paid to the officers in charge of the census which was made in this island in1891.

XI.—EDUCATION (Annexure G).

In 1891 there were two schools in operation at Rodrigues. The expenses thereof are paid by Government.

Port Mathurin School.

Average number on roll 65, and average attendance 53, against 59 and 46 in 1890.

St. Gabriel School.

Roll number 150, and average attendance 100, against 106 and 73 in 1890.

The costs of both schools (including Mr. Ternel's arrears of increments for 1890 and 1891 paid in 1891) amounted to Rs.3509.14 in 1891 and to Rs.3.141.42 in 1890, after deduction of the school fees, which amounted to Rs.98.50 in 1891, and to Rs.103.75 in 1890. School books and stationery (sent from Mauritius) were sold to the pupils of both schools to the value of Rs.69.20 in 1891 to Rs.64.09 in 1890.

The annual cost to Government of each pupil inscribed on the roll at both schools was Rs.16.32 and a fraction in 1891, against Rs. 19.03 and a fraction in 1890.

Prizes sent from Mauritius were distributed to the pupils of both schools at the end of 1891.

XII.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Criminal Side.

	1890.	1891.
Number of informations filed, including applications for search warrants - -	41	61
Number of adjudications - - -	36	43
„ cases abandoned - - -	5	18
„ persons convicted - -	35	38
„ persons acquitted - -	6	15

The most numerous charges were: Larcenies, abusive language and breach of forest and fishery laws.

Civil Side.

The number of civil cases entered in 1891 was 75, against 141 in 1890.

Stipendiary.

	1890.	1891.
Number of cases entered - - -	10	18
Criminal Side:		
Number of convictions - - -	7	6
„ acquittals or - - -	—	4
„ cases given up - - -	3	4
Civil Side:		
Number of cases for plaintiff - - -	—	4
„ „ defendant - -	—	4

The most numerous charges were for breach of contract, of which there were 14, against one in 1890.

Engagements - -	- 1 in 1891 and 4 in 1890.
Discharges - -	- 2 in 1891 and 4 in 1890.

The total number of cases of all jurisdictions amounted to—

Criminal - -	- 41 in 1890	and 61 in 1891.
Civil - -	- 141 „	and 75 „
Stipendiary - -	- 10 „	and 18 „
	192 „	and 154 „

showing a decrease of 38 cases on the year 1890.

The court revenue in 1891 was Rs.467.06, against Rs.296.10 in 1890 (fees of office are included).

The expenditure Rs.86.75, against Rs.118.75 in 1890.

XIII.—GAOLS.

Twenty-one persons were committed to gaol in 891 and 24 in 1890.

The prisoners' extra rations amounted to Rs.31.98 in 1891, and to Rs.19.52 in 1890. Rice and salt were sent from Mauritius.

In 1891 a female prison warder had to be taken, and was paid Rs.19.75.

The chief officer of police is keeper of the gaol and the constables act as prison guards.

XIV.—Police Force and Forest Ranger.

The expenses incurred in 1891 for these branches amounted to Rs.4,711.39, against Rs.4,661.64 in 1890.

In the above amount of Rs.4711.39 are included salaries, allowances, salaries which had to be paid to new constables detained in quarantine, and passages of constables transferred to Mauritius.

The police uniforms, clothing and boots were sent from Mauritius.

XV.—Medical Branch.

The number of patients treated in the public hospital in 1891 was 10, and 67 in 1890.

2,064 received medical care at the dispensary, against 3,549 in 1890.

One death occurred in the hospital in 1891, and seven in 1890.

The prevailing diseases were dysentery, worms and rheumatism.

102 children were vaccinated in 1891.

The receipts on account of in-patients amounted to Rs.8.75 in 1891, against Rs.13.50 in 1890.

The total expenditure for the medical branch was Rs.2,859.63 in 1890, and Rs.2757.82 in 1891, showing a difference of Rs.101.81 in favour of 1891. In the above sum of Rs.2,757.82. are included Rs.112.50 for Vaccination fees of 1890, and Rs.87.75 for hospital expenditure incurred the same year.

The rent of the hospital was paid in Mauritius; the 547½ lbs. of rice given to the hospital servant to complete his rations were sent from Mauritius.

XVI.—Poor Law.

The same number of paupers were provided for in 1890 and 1891, *i.e.*, 13 males and 6 females. Each pauper received 500 grammes of rice "per diem" and a suit of drill at the end of the year. The rice and clothing were sent from Mauritius.

A sum of Rs.254.25 was expended in 1890 for the relief and burial of the destitute inhabitants (during the influenza). No special assistance was required from Government in 1891.

XVII.—Ecclesiastical.

There are two Roman Catholic churches at Rodrigues, one of them is supported by Government (St. Gabriel Church).

RODRIGUES 1891.

The expenditure for the Roman Catholic church was Rs.2,730.44 in 1891 against Rs.3,541.56 in 1890.

The catechist of the Church of England officiates at the Government School at Port Mathurin; he is paid by the London Missionary Society.

XVIII.—LEGISLATION.

No special laws were enacted by the Legislative Council of Mauritius for this island. Proclamation No. 20 of 1891 extended the delay for taking the census at Rodrigues to the 3rd May 1891.

XIX.—REGISTRATION.

Thirty-seven documents were registered in 1891, and 28 in 1890.

The revenue derived thereby amounted to Rs.18.50 in 1891, against Rs.14 in 1890.

XX.—METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Chief Officer of Police took daily observations which have been transmitted to the Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory at Mauritius.

	N. Ther.	N. Bar.
Highest temperature (indoors) 22nd January 1891, 3 p.m. - - - -	08·06	30·120
Lowest temperature (indoors) 29th July 1891, 9 a.m. - - - -	68·07	30·340
Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours, from 9 a.m. 28th to 9 a m. 29th January 1891. -		1¾ inch.

The month of January was the month in which there was the heaviest rainfalls—the rain gauge marked 923 lines, which is equivalent to 9¼ inches.

No hurricane visited the island in 1891.

Mr. Mason, chief officer of police, received Rs.180.25 in 1890 and Rs.182.50 in 1891 for taking these observations (charged under miscellaneous expenses).

XXI.—FOREST AND CROWN LANDS.

In 1891 there were 414 acres of land paid for by agriculturists at Rs.2 per annum the acre, for 1891, and 212½ acres for 1890.

Thirty-two fishing posts were leased in 1890 and 1891; they fetched Rs.170 in 1891 (out of which Rs.50 are arrears of 1890) against Rs.140 in 1890 (arrears of 1889 included).

The islands were leased for Rs.56.75 in 1891, against Rs.36 in 1889.

The town lots (four) obtained Rs.25 in 1891, and Rs.20 in 1890.

The number of Government lessees in 1891 was 265, against 261 in 1890.

The Revenue actually received under the heading of Land Rent amounted to Rs.1,504.75 in 1891, and to Rs.898.30 in 1890. (Fishing posts, town lots, islands and other land leases are included therein.)

The pasturage dues brought a Revenue of Rs.963 in 1891 and Rs.485 in 1890.

The pasturage revenue is exclusive of the sum of Rs. 1,800 paid by Mr. James Martin in Mauritius in 1891.

No sale of land was made in 1891 ; a sum of Rs.140.34 was received for land sold previous to that year. No land was bought by Government in 1890 and 1891.

The amount of forest produce sold was Rs.228.28c., in 1891, against Rs.247.95 in 1890.

The outstanding land rent amounted to Rs.260 on the 31st December 1891, *i.e.*, Rs.20 for 1890 and Rs.240 for 1891.

A balance of Rs.472.05 was still due for pasturage fees on the 31st December 1891, without including Mr. Martin's pasturage dues, which amounted to Rs.1,597.75 on the 31st December 1891.

A sum of Rs.82 was paid in 1891 as compensation for land taken away from certain inhabitants for reserves, since 1888.

XXII.—Buildings and Boats.

A sum of Rs.59.06 was expended in 1891 under the heading of Maintenance of Buildings (Estimates), against Rs.657.75 in 1890. No new works were made in 1891 (boards, paint, glass, bolts, &c., are sent from Mauritius and paid for there).

Rs.146.83 was spent for repairs of boats, against Rs.20 in 1890.

(Canvass and fixtures for boats are sent from Mauritius.)

XXIII.—Miscellaneous Expenses (not referred to under any special heading of this Report).

1. The cleaning of the town was made by two scavengers and one boatman (the salaries of the scavengers amounted to Rs.312.00 in 1891 and to Rs.288.00 in 1890, (*vide* Establishments) ; the rations of each consisted " per annum " of 540 lbs. of rice sent from Mauritius, and of Rs.19.32 paid here for salt fish, &c. The boatman received Rs.120 " per annum " for towing the night-soil barge to sea ; no rations are given to him.

2. A sum of Rs.209.27 was spent in 1891 for quarantine purposes.

3. Divers works not specially provided for under Item 26 Sub-item 12 of Estimates (Maintenance of Buildings) cost to Government Rs.16.50 in 1891 and Rs.380.79 in 1890.

4. Sundry payments were made to the amount of Rs.53.96 in 1891, and Rs. 162.50 in 1890.

5. The pilot received in 1891 Rs.55 as a gratuity for having been detained 11 days in quarantine.— Rs.10 were paid the same year to Forest Ranger Constance for special services during the influenza of 1890.

6. Sums paid by error by the inhabitants were refunded to them to the amount of Rs.4 in 1891, and Rs.6.38 in 1890.

Petty Supplies.

Rs.15.56 were expended for petty supplies in 1891, and Rs.33.35 in 1890.

Special Repayment.

Rs.118.91 were refunded to Mr. E. Gellé in 1890 (a sale of land which had been made to him having been cancelled). No special repayment was made in 1891.

XXIV.—RICE ACCOUNT.

In 1889, 600 bags of rice were sent to Rodrigues. The cost price thereof, including charges, amounted to Rs.6,028.10 The landing of the rice at Rodrigues cost Rs.39,50, making a total of Rs.6,067.60.

The price fixed for the sale of the rice at Rodrigues was Rs. 6,073.10.

	Rs.
The amount paid up to the 31st December 1889, was - - - - -	15.18
The amount paid up to the 31st December 1890, was - - - - -	1,630.07
The amount paid up to the 31st December 1891, was - - - - -	2,258.66
Losses incurred by Death * - - -	248.33
Unrecoverable - - - -	289.96
Carried to Paupers' rice - - - -	5.59
Total -	Rs. 4,447.79
Sum recoverable and outstanding -	Rs. 1,625.31

* *Note.*—Some widows and children paid part of the rice debt of those deceased ; this accounts for that loss being only Rs.248.33 on the 31st December.

In December 1890, 600 bags were received here and sold in 1891, cost price, including charges, Rs.5,917.00. Landing at Rodrigues Rs.40. Total Rs.5,957.00. Total value of sale price at Rodrigues Rs.5,958.92, *i.e.*, sold :—

	Rs.
558 bags and 63 lbs. - - - -	5,584.30
26 „ damaged - - - -	234.00
78 lbs. damaged - - - -	5.72
15 bags carried to paupers' rice - -	135.00
9 lbs. missing - - - - -	0.90
Total -	Rs. 5,958.92

Amount paid up to 31st December 1891 -	2,496.13
Unrecoverable - - - - -	165.00
9 lbs. missing - - - - -	0.90
Total -	Rs. 2,662.03
Sums recoverable and outstanding - -	Rs. 3,296.89

In 1891, 200 bags of rice were sent to Rodrigues, but the sale thereof began only in 1892.

General Remarks.

The crop was very poor in 1891, owing to the epidemic of influenza which prevailed here in 1890 and which prevented the inhabitants from cultivating their land. I must, however, say that they showed an exceptional goodwill in paying their debts.

It is to be regretted that there are no regular roads at Rodrigues, otherwise much might be done towards its improvement. Rs.3,500 must at least be spent to have decent roads, and I would suggest that the outstanding amount recoverable on the rice due by the inhabitants be paid by them in making roads.

The civil and criminal laws require alterations, the magistrate's jurisdiction should be enlarged. It would be advantageous to extend to Rodrigues the laws applicable to District Courts ni Mauritius, with this "proviso" as regards "Bench" matters,—that in all cases wherein the matter may be tried by a "Bench" ni Mauritius, the magistrate of Rodrigues shall have jurisdiction to convict for a period not exceeding two years. Special authority should be conferred on the magistrate to try summarily cases of perjury. In nine cases out of ten perjuries are committed here.

RODRIGUES. 1891.

Notarial powers may be given to the magistrate in order to facilitate sales of land.

Vanilla being planted on several estates, it is necessary, to prevent depredations, that Ordinance No. 7 of 1875 be extended to Rodrigues. The Fishing Regulation is defective; an experiment has been made of late by the principal fishermen of the island, who stopped beating the tam-tam, and the result was beneficial to all. A special Article to Regulation 4 of 1882 prohibiting that mode of fishing may be framed.

B. H. COLIN,
Magistrate.

Rodrigues Magistracy,
9th June 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

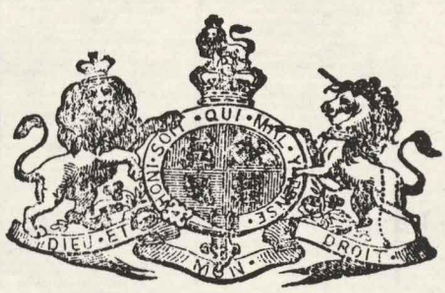
No. 98.

RODRIGUES.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 70.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1894.



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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
62	Basutoland	1891–92
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 98.

RODRIGUES.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 70.)

The MAGISTRATE of RODRIGUES to the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY, Mauritius.

Rodrigues Magistracy,
April 8, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, my Annual Report on Rodrigues for the year 1892. The differences in the numbers mentioned in my Report for 1891 and those reproduced in the present one, are due to my having altered my former classifications.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. H. COLIN,
Magistrate.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

REPORT on the RODRIGUES BLUE BOOK for the Year 1892.

TAXATION.

No change was made in the taxation of this island during the year 1892.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of 1892 (exclusive of Customs and sums collected in Mauritius) amounted to Rs.6,960.44 against Rs.5,894.90, in the preceding year ; and the expenditure was Rs.25,541.62 against Rs.24,010.36 in the year 1891.

The principal heads of revenue were land rent, dog tax, pasturage fees, licenses, fines, and forest revenues.

The increase of expenses is to be chiefly attributed to increase of salaries, new buildings and repairs, and quarantine expenses.

I 79130. Wt. 10230.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

The cost of establishments in 1891 and 1892 shows the following differences :—

	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Salaries - - -	16,966.20	17,079.46
Allowances - - - - -	1,115.49	1,357.80
Total - - - -	18,081.69	18,437.26

PENSIONS.

Rs.1,336.32 were expended for pensions in 1892 and the same in 1891.

MAGISTRACY.

The following expenditure was incurred for the Magistracy of Rodrigues :—

	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Salary of magistrate - - - -	3,999.96	4,999.92
Salary of Postmaster - - -	120.00	120.00
Travelling expenses - - - -	159.00	142.00
Clerical assistance - - - -	240.00	480.00
Government labourer and messenger -	240.00	240.00
Total - - - -	4,758.96	5,981.92

The Magistrate has a residence.

The stationery, books, &c., for the office are sent from Mauritius.

POST OFFICE.

The revenue collected in 1892 for postage and commission on money orders was Rs.174.96 against Rs.139.66 in 1891.

The letters received amounted to 811 in 1891 and to 951 in 1892 ; the letters despatched to 724 in 1891 and to 1,113 in 1892.

Newspapers 544 in 1891, and 725 in 1892. The money orders drawn in Mauritius amounted to Rs.12,219.31 in 1891, and to Rs.13,732.09 in 1892.

Orders were drawn on Rodrigues to the value of Rs.583 in 1891, and of Rs.1,147.90 in 1892. RODRIGUES. 1892.

The Magistrate acts as Postmaster.

STAMPED PAPERS—LICENSES AND INTERNAL REVENUE STAMPS.

The following revenue was derived from the above in 1891 and 1892 :—

	1891.	1892.
	Rs.	Rs.
Stamped papers - - - -	148.43	177.31
Receipt stamps - - - -		
Stamps for bills of lading - - -	1,265.00	1,253.36
Trade licenses - - - -		
Game licenses - - - -		
Total - - - -	1,413.43	1,430.67

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

The exports, exclusive of specie, amounted to Rs.71,366.38 in 1892 against Rs.42,174 in 1891, showing an increase of Rs.34,172.38. The imports show a total of Rs.118,164.89 against Rs.110,073.96 in 1891, showing an increase of Rs.8,090.93.

SHIPPING.

Under this head the year 1892, compared with the previous year, shows the following differences :—

1891.		1892.	
Inwards - - -	6 ships.	Inwards - - -	9 ships.
Outwards - - -	5 „	Outwards - - -	9 „

The subsidy for postal communication (1891 and 1892) was paid in Mauritius.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The population on the 31st December 1891 - -		2,098
Number of births in 1892 - - -	130	
„ arrivals „ - - -	85=215	
„ deaths „ - - -	23	
„ departures „ - - -	80=103	
Increase in 1892 - - - - - - -		112
Population on the 31st December 1892 - -		2,210

RODRIGUES. 1892.

The birth-rate shows an increase of 21 births in 1892, if compared with the previous year.

The death-rate an increase of 1 death.

There were 2 still-births in 1892 and none in 1891.

Twenty marriages were celebrated in 1892 against 19 in 1891.

There was one marriage " in articulo mortis " in 1892, against none in 1891.

EDUCATION.

There are two Government schools at Rodrigues, one at Port Mathurin, the other at St. Gabriel. Port Mathurin school—average number on roll 73, average attendance 57, against 65 and 53 in 1891. St. Gabriel school—average number on roll 141, average attendance 103, against 150 and 100 in 1891. The cost of both schools (after deduction of the school fees, which amounted to Rs.49.25 in 1892 and to Rs.98.50 in 1891) amounted to Rs.3,509.14 in 1891, and to Rs.3,588.67 in 1892.

School fees were abolished in 1892.

School books and stationery (sent from Mauritius) were sold to the pupils of both schools to the value of Rs.69.20 in 1891 and of Rs.83.90 in 1892.

The annual cost to Government of each pupil inscribed on the roll at both schools was Rs.16.76 and a fraction in 1892, against Rs.16.32 and a fraction in 1891.

JUDICIAL.

Criminal Side.

	1891.	1892.
Number of informations filed, including applications for search warrants - -	61	57
Number of adjudications - - -	43	44
„ cases abandoned - - - -	18	13
„ persons convicted - -	38	41
„ persons acquitted - -	15	11

The most numerous charges were breach of forest laws, assault, disturbance, wounds and blows, and abusive language.

Civil Side.

The number of civil cases entered in 1892 was 45, against 75 in 1891.

Stipendiary Side.

The number of stipendiary cases amounted to 18 in 1891 and to 16 in 1892.

The most numerous stipendiary cases were for breach of contract.

Engagements -	- 1 in 1891 and 0 in 1892.
Discharges - -	- 2 in 1891 and 1 in 1892.

The total number of cases of all jurisdictions amounted to :—

	1891.	1892.
Criminal - - - - - -	61	57
Civil - - - - - -	75	45
Stipendiary - - - - -	18	16
	154	118

GAOLS.

Twenty-one persons were committed to gaol in 1891 and 12 in 1892.

The prisoners' extra rations cost Rs.31.98 in 1891 and Rs.5.24 in 1892.

Rice and salt for prisoners were sent from Mauritius.

The chief officer of police is keeper of the gaol, and the constables act as prison guards.

POLICE FORCE AND FOREST RANGERS.

The expenses incurred in 1892 for these branches amounted to Rs.4,648.22, against Rs.4,711.39 in 1891.

In the above amount are included salaries, allowances, and passages.

The police uniforms, clothing, and boots were sent from Mauritius.

MEDICAL BRANCH

The number of patients treated in the public hospital in 1892 was 6* and 10 in 1891.

2,341 persons received medical care at the dispensaries* against 2,064 in 1891.

One death occurred in the hospital during the year 1892 and one in 1891.

The prevailing diseases were influenza, worms, and rheumatism.

73 children were vaccinated in 1892 and 102 in 1891.

The receipts on account of in-patients amounted to Rs 0 in 1892 and to Rs.8·75 in 1891.

The total expenditure for the medical branch was Rs.2,338.11 in 1892 against Rs.2,757.82 in 1891.

The rent of the hospital was paid in Mauritius, and the 547½ lbs. of rice given to the hospital servant to complete his rations were sent from Mauritius.

POOR LAW.

The number of paupers provided for in 1892 amounted to 19, *i.e.*, 15 males and 4 females, against 19 in 1891, *i.e.*, 13 males and 6 females.

Each pauper received 500 grammes of rice per diem and a suit of drill at the end of the year. The rice and clothing were sent from Mauritius.

A sum of Rs.112.15 was spent in 1892 for the relief of destitute inhabitants and for the burial of paupers.

Four bags of rice were distributed gratis.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

There are two Roman Catholic churches at Rodrigues, one of them is supported by Government (St. Gabriel Church).

The expenditure for the Roman Catholic church was Rs.1,999.92 against Rs.2,730.44 in 1891.

The catechist of the Church of England officiated at the Government School of Port Mathurin; he is paid by the London Missionary Society.

LEGISLATION.

No special laws were enacted for Rodrigues in 1892.

REGISTRATION.

Fifty-four documents were registered in 1892 and 37 in 1891.

The revenue derived thereby amounted to Rs.18.50 in 1891 and to Rs.27 in 1892.

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* NOTE.—The Government Medical Officer went on leave to Mauritius on the 8th October and returned on the 26th December. During his absence those who required medical care were attended to by the Magistrate assisted kindly by several gentlemen. Two persons were admitted to the hospital in that interval, and an average of four persons (per diem) received remedies from the dispensary. They are not included in the number given above.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Chief Officer of Police took daily observations which have been transmitted to the Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory at Mauritius.

	N. Ther.	N. Bar.
1. Highest temp. (indoors) 23.2.93, 3 p.m.	90.01	29.980
2 Lowest temp. (indoors) 26.7.92, 9 a.m.	68.02	30.205

3. Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours, from 9 a.m. 19th to 9 a m. 20th May.
4. The month of May was the month in which there were the heaviest rainfalls—the rain gauge marked 871 lines, which is equivalent to a little short of $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
5. No hurricane visited the island in 1892.

The Chief Officer of Police received Rs.183 in 1892 and Rs.182.50 in 1891 for taking these observations.

FOREST AND CROWN LANDS.

In 1892 there were 543 acres of land paid for by agriculturists at Rs.2 per annum (with the exception of 4 acres leased since 1889 at R.1 per acre and 2 acres leased to Mr. Viger at the nominal rent of R.0·25 (for a saline).

Rs.16 were paid for arrears of 1890, leaving Rs.4 unpaid on the 31st December 1892.

Rs.193 were paid for arrears of 1891, leaving Rs.47 unpaid on the 31st December 1892. (In the Rs.193 are included 4 acres at R. 1).

Thirty-three fishing posts were leased in 1892 and 32 in 1891. (They fetched Rs.195, out of which Rs.35 are arrears of 1891.)

Outstanding: Rs.5 for 1891 and Rs.5 for 1892. These ten rupees are due by Mr. Martin who pays his taxes in Mauritius.

The islands were leased for Rs.64.02 in 1892, against Rs.56.75 in 1891.

The town lots obtained Rs.30 in 1892 and Rs.25 in 1891. Outstanding: Rs.10 for 1891 and Rs.10 for 1892.

The number of Government lessees in 1892 was 291, against 265 in 1891.

The Revenue actually received under the heading of Land Rent amounted to Rs.1,535.31 in 1892, and to Rs.1,504.75 in 1891. (Fishing posts, town lots, islands, and other land leases are included therein.)

The pasturage dues (exclusive of the sums paid and due by Mr. Martin in Mauritius) brought a Revenue of Rs.1,381.15 in 1892, against Rs.963 in 1891. Outstanding on the 31st December 1892: Rs.59.10 for 1891 and Rs.3.30 for 1892. No sale of land was made in 1891 and 1892; a sum of Rs.140.34 was received in 1891 for land sold previous to that year.

The amount derived from forest produce amounted to Rs.240, against Rs.228.28 in 1891.

RODRIGUES. 1892.

BUILDINGS AND BOATS.

A sum of Rs.488.81 was expended in 1892 under the heading of Maintenance of Buildings, against Rs.59.06 in 1891 (boards, paint, glass, bolts, &c., were sent from Mauritius).

A sum of Rs.1,500 was spent in 1892 for the new building at Mount Lubin and a further sum of Rs.500 for the constable's barracks. (This latter item under a special vote.) Rs.29.03 were spent for repairs of boats against Rs.146.83 in 1891.

EXPENSES NOT REFERRED TO UNDER ANY SPECIAL HEADING.

—	1891.	1892.
Sanitary:—	Rs.	Rs.
Scavengers' salary	312.00	372·00
Scavengers' rations	—	—
Surplus rice sent from Mauritius in 1891, and part of 1892	38.64	21.06
Night soil service	120·00	120.00
Extra salaries paid to scavengers	—	31.00
Relief of destitute inhabitants and burial of paupers	—	112.15
Divers works	60.96	375·59
Rewards and gratuities	65.00	—
Refund of moneys paid by error	4.00	1.25
Petty supplies	25.06	27.89
Settlement with the inhabitants for produce sold in Mauritius	2,263.99	1,666.72
Quarantine expenses	209.27	126.97
Census (special)	400.00	—
Total	3,498.92	2,854.63

RICE ACCOUNT.

In 1889 600 bags of rice were sent to Rodrigues (charges included).

The price fixed for the sale thereof was Rs. 6,073.10.

	Rs.
The amount paid up to the 31st December 1889 was	15.18
The amount paid up to the 31st December 1890 was	1,630.07
The amount paid up to the 31st December 1891 was	2,258.66
The amount paid up to the 31st December 1892 was	632.97
Losses incurred by death	248.33
Unrecoverable	289.96
Carried to paupers' rice	5.59
Total	Rs.5,080.76

31st December 1892.—Sums recoverable and outstanding: Rs.992.34.

In 1890 600 bags of rice were received here and sold in 1891 for the sum of Rs.5,958.92 (charges included).

	Rs.
558 bags and 63 lbs. - - - -	5,584.30
26 „ damaged - - - -	234.00
	5,818.30
78 lbs. damaged - - - -	5.72
15 bags carried to paupers' rice - -	135.00
9 lbs. missing - - - - -	0.90
Total -	Rs.5,959.92

Amount paid up to 31st December 1891 -	2,496.13
Amount paid up to 31st December 1892 -	953.50
Unrecoverable - - - - -	165.00
9 lbs. missing - - - - -	0.90
Total -	Rs.3,615.53

31st December 1892.—Sums recoverable and outstanding: Rs.2,343.39.

In December 1891 200 bags were sent to Rodrigues, and sold for cash in 1892.

	Rs.
Sums obtained - - - - -	1 638.24
1½ bags short, destroyed by insects - -	12.52
4 bags distributed gratis to paupers during influenza - - - - - -	33.40
Total -	Rs.1,684.16

In December 1892 100 bags of rice were sent, but the sale thereof began only in 1893.

General Remarks.

The crop would have been better in 1892 had not the population suffered from two epidemics of influenza, and had not the bean crop been an utter failure. The inhabitants showed as usual a very good will in paying their debts.

Mr. Viger has begun the works for a saline and I hope that before the end of 1893 the inhabitants will have salt at Mauritius prices.

Vanilla plantations are getting prosperous.

Tobacco plantations are increasing and give most satisfactory results.

RODRIGUES. 1892.

Most of the buildings which needed repairs have been repaired. The Government Medical Officer's quarters were erected at Mount Lubin. The new hospital was being constructed at the end of 1892.

B. H. COLIN,
Magistrate of Rodrigues.

5th March 1893.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 63.

ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 26.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.–13.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
27	Mauritius	1890
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
56	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–2
62	Basutoland	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 63.

ST. HELENA.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 26.]

Governor GREY WILSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

The Castle, St. Helena,
August 8, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Island for the year 1891.

The gloomy forebodings to which I gave expression in my report upon the Blue Book for 1890, were, I very much regret to state, more than justified by the year under review.

The revenue was 6,874*l.* (1,854*l.* less than in 1890), and the expenditure 8,287*l.* (745*l.* less than in 1890), so that we exceeded our revenue by the comparatively very large sum of 1,413*l.*

The chief falling off in the revenue occurred under the heads of "Customs" and "Land Revenue," and was, in a great measure, the result of the reduction of the garrison. I had anticipated a deficit of 802*l.*, and, by very stringent and, in some cases, almost detrimental economies, a saving of 365*l.* upon the authorised expenditure was effected. But no efforts could have averted the result which the collapse of the revenue entailed.

The condition of the island in August was such as to excite very grave anxiety; work was almost unobtainable; with the shipping nothing was doing; the potato crop was indifferent; and starvation faced many Under these circumstances, I started relief work for women and children only, so as to leave the men ready for anything that might turn up. In St. Helena, a few hours may suffice to dispel despair. The arrival of a ship needing coal, or of a man-of-war, or of a ship in distress to land cargo, may at any moment offer work to those in urgent need of it. It so happened that, within three weeks of the commencement of the relief work, a man-of-war came in, and before the close of the year several had arrived in rapid succession. I was thus relieved of all immediate cause for anxiety.

Taxation.

No alteration whatever took place in taxation during the year, and nothing was outstanding under this head at the close of the year.

HELENA, 1891.

Although in 1890 I removed about one half of the tax upon boats, boatmen found it very difficult to earn sufficient even to meet the reduced rates, owing to the scarcity of ships.

Local Bodies.

I regret being unable to record any evidence of the birth of an adequate interest being taken in the matter of sanitation. Until the town community boldly face and attack this subject, they must labour under a grave responsibility.

The general revenue may reasonably be expected to contribute, on account of Government town property, toward the cost of any drainage works that are undertaken; but the greater part of the outlay must be borne by the householders, who would directly benefit by the reformation, and who at present are the chief sufferers from the defects in our sanitary system.

Public Debt.

During the year the last large instalment (1,000*l.*) of the loan of 19,500*l.* raised during the years 1868 to 1872, was paid off, and there only remained, on the 31st of December, the sum of 250*l.* outstanding. This loan, which bears interest at 7 per cent. per annum, was raised by Sir Charles Elliot, and was expended upon the restoration of the Government buildings in town which had been devastated by the white ant.

Viewed from the standpoint of the present financial position of the Colony, it is not open to question that a very much smaller amount should have been made to meet all its needs; but, although this is evident in retrospect, it was doubtless little anticipated at the time.

This debt has been a millstone around the neck of the Colony, and its early, though too late, extinction is a subject for justifiable satisfaction.

In addition to the foregoing 250*l.*, there remained a sum of 5,158*l.* lent to the Colony, without interest, by the Imperial Government in 1872. It has not been possible for the Colony to repay any portion of this loan, and the prospect of its repayment appears more remote to-day than it did six years ago, when I first reached the Island.

Assets and Liabilities.

On the 31st of December the assets of the Colony were 12,580*l.*, and the current liabilities 13,366*l.* The latter therefore exceeded the assets by 786*l.*

In view of the fact that in the previous year the assets exceeded the liabilities by 813*l.*, this cannot be regarded as less than very unsatisfactory.

Military.

The garrison was maintained at the reduced strength of the previous year, namely, one company of the York and Lancaster Regiment, and 17 gunner caretakers in charge of a master gunner.

Some progress was made with the consideration of the question of raising a Militia force, and Lieut.-Colonel Maclean, late R.A., after visiting England for consultations, continued his investigations and reports upon the scheme, which is still engaging the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

Considerable opposition was given to some of the provisions of the draft of a new Militia Ordinance which was published in the island; and it is hoped that the Imperial Government will be prepared to eliminate such of the features, to which objection was taken, as are not material to its efficiency.

Public Works.

The expenditure upon public works was 1,087*l.* This sum, in so far as it slightly exceeded the estimate, was more than counterbalanced by increased reimbursements in aid. The Government executed, and supplied materials for, considerable private sanitary and water service work, an arrangement which so far works advantageously for both parties, and ensures the use of good material.

A considerable sum of money was expended upon the town roads, and upon the thorough repair of the boys' school in town, which has been almost gutted by the White Ant; but beyond this no work of any magnitude was undertaken, the current works fully absorbing the remainder of the vote.

The price paid for transport in this mountainous place enhances considerably the cost of most works.

Legislation.

Three ordinances were passed during the year.

Nos. 1 and 3 are Supply and Supplementary Supply ordinances.

No. 2—"To simplify Conveyancing and Titles to Land"—moved in the direction of a very much needed reform, but the law itself is defective in many points, and will be re-enacted at the earliest possible date.

In addition to the foregoing, Her Majesty's Order in Council of 1st May 1890, instituting a Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes in St. Helena, was brought into operation by a Proclamation of the 14th of July 1891, and upon the same date, the Rules and Regulations in Divorce and Matrimonial Causes were made.

New Rules of Procedure in the Supreme Court of the Colony were made on the 21st March 1891, vastly simplifying and cheapening legal process.

New Port and Quarantine Regulations were also framed during the year.

Council.

Major A. A. Boggs, of the East Yorkshire Regiment, commanding the troops, was a member of Council until April, when he left the island, and Captain R. C. A. Howe, of the York and Lancaster Regiment, replaced him upon the Council. Mr. Saul Solomon was absent from the island during the greater part of the year.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. G. C. Bruce, the Harbour Master, went on leave on the 18th April, and in August was appointed Harbour Master in St. Lucia. Mr. J. Boyd acted as Harbour Master during the year, but the office is still vacant.

The Reverend F. H. Baker was appointed auditor on the 1st of April *vice* Major H. W. B. Bruno, A.S.C.

The Reverend S. J. Ellis, Chaplain to the Civil Hospital and Gaol, and Inspector of the town schools, resigned his appointments on leaving the island in May. He was immediately succeeded by the Reverend Joseph Young as Inspector of schools, and by the Reverend Edwin Hughes, as Chaplain in December.

One constable resigned during the year.

Pensions.

Two pensioners, Owen Buckely, who retired in 1874, and Miss E. Welch, who retired in 1886, died during the year.

The amount for which the Colony was liable for pensions at the close of the year, was 1,848*l.*, or considerably more than one quarter of our total revenue for the year.

The subsidence in our pension roll entirely fails to maintain a pace proportionate to the shrinkage in the general revenue, and all the sacrifices that have been made in the Civil Establishment have failed to enable us to balance our annual account. To illustrate this most forcibly, I would mention that on account of the various offices which I hold, there was paid to pensioned former holders, of some of them only, the sum of 1,156*l.* a year in 1886, and in 1891, 940*l.*

Population.

A census of the population was taken on the night of the 5th of April, the date adopted almost universally throughout the British Empire.

The population, excluding shipping and the garrison, was 3,877, a decrease of 634 as compared with 1881. This decrease is due entirely to emigration, as the birth largely exceeded the death rate.

The proportion of males to females has been steadily decreasing since 1861, and by this census there were only 84·4 males to every 100 females.

The birth-rate during the year was 28·6, and the death-rate 13·4 per 1,000.

The American vessels engaged in whale fishery in the South Atlantic absorb a somewhat large proportion of our able-bodied men, and, after satisfying their demands, there only remain 377 men between the ages 17 and 40 available for the local militia.

The census disclosed some lamentable over-crowding; 219 families were housed in as many rooms, and of these, two families numbered no less than 13 each; 4 others numbered 10 each; while considerably more than half the population had only two rooms to each family.

The live stock return shows a slight decline during the decade.

As the census of the island has formed the subject of a special report, which I transmitted to your Lordship with my despatch, No. 70, of the 10th December last, it is perhaps not desirable that I should now deal with the subject at greater length.

Education.

The number of scholars on the rolls shows a slight increase as compared with the previous year (819 to 837), and the average attendance was well maintained.

The cause of education sustained a serious loss by the departure of the town inspector, the Reverend S. J. Ellis, who for four years had devoted much of his time and energy to the voluntary labour which he admirably discharged. The Government were so fortunate as to secure as a successor to Mr. Ellis, the Reverend Joseph Young of the Baptist Mission, a very able and zealous worker, who, like his predecessor, gives his services to the Government gratuitously.

The results of the examinations were, on the whole, hardly up to those of the previous year, but in some of the schools many of the senior pupils had gone out into the world, leaving the upper standards in a somewhat skeleton condition.

The percentage of those receiving elementary education is 21·5 of the civil population of the island.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports was 27,382*l.*, a decline of 4,576*l.* as compared with 1890. The exports were of the value of 3,126*l.*, including 2,19 *l.* in specie. In addition to the imports and

exports, whale oil and bone to the value of 17,428*l.*, was transhipped by the American fleet in Jamestown Harbour.

It is not a little curious that whaling operations, in these seas, are conducted by vessels flying the American flag only.

It has been alleged that the British Mercantile Marine Acts are too stringent in their requirements to leave any margin of profit to the owner of a whaler, and that this accounts for the British flag not being represented; but, in view of the successful oiling fleets fitted out in Scotland, this can hardly be accepted as a satisfactory explanation.

I am disposed to attribute a great part of the cause of this apparent anomaly to the far simpler and more elastic and enterprizing mode of doing business adopted by Americans. An American schooner calls here twice a year, bringing such flour and other stores as the masters of the whalers have indicated they will probably require; and any surplus stores which the schooner may have are readily sold locally.

The whaling fleet meets this schooner here twice a year, and orders from the masters are given verbally to the master of the schooner, whose owners execute all requirements without the intervention of any middle man. The transaction is closed by an order on the owners in America in payment of the stores supplied; no bills of lading, invoices, or other technicalities being required. The schooner also supplies the cash, which she receives here for stores sold, to the whaling fleet in exchange for orders on America.

The remarkable increase in the quantity of sugar manufactured in America which was imported during the year must be specially mentioned as an interesting fact in connection with the recent fiscal alterations of the United States.

Shipping.

463 vessels communicated with the island, of which, 211 called, and 252 were boarded by licensed traders. These figures are 56 above those of the previous year.

The number of vessels which called was exactly the same as in 1890, so that the increase is entirely in the trade with passing ships.

Criminal Statistics.

107 cases were reported to the police, of which 80 resulted in summary conviction. Only two cases of larceny were tried in the Supreme Court, and both resulted in convictions.

The health of the gaol was most satisfactory throughout the year.

Meteorology.

The rainfall for the year was 29½ inches, half an inch below the average but, although the rainfall was light, the number of

rainy days (231) was unusually large These statistics refer only to the country, as in Jamestown and the other valleys the rainfall is very small indeed.

Hospital.

The health of the island was good during the year, and the mortality (13·4 per 1,000) below the average, but the work entailed upon the hospital bears but a slight relation to the island's health, as it is in a great measure due to the needs of the mercantile marine of the world. Sailors of all nationalities, but chiefly British, are sent to our hospital by passing ships. The cases are frequently very bad ones, as a master does not call to land a seaman unless he deems it urgently necessary.

This work of humanity has been discharged by the island for very many years, and is, without doubt, a work of such urgent necessity that nothing should be allowed to interrupt it. The financial depression of the island, however, forces me to invite attention to this, as one of the strongest grounds upon which Imperial financial aid may be hoped for.

Savings Bank.

2,429*l.* was deposited, and 2,913*l.*, including interest, was withdrawn during the year; the total deposits falling from 10,393*l.* to 10,125*l.* The number of investors (112) was the same as the previous year, and the invested capital a trifle less.

The net profit upon the year's transactions, after paying all expenses, was 48*l.*, a very satisfactory amount in view of the very small return consols yield the Government.

As I have stated in previous reports, the savings bank return does not indicate general prosperity, but is due to the deposits of a few well-to-do persons.

Post Office.

The year's revenue was 83*l.* less (870*l.* to 787*l.*), and the expenditure was rather more than that in 1890, as there was, at the close of the year, a debt of 99*l.* due to the Cape Government for the carriage of mails which is not included in the year's accounts.

The maintenance of the 6*d.* rate per half ounce on letters from St. Helena to the United Kingdom and South Africa, and the still higher rates to other parts of the world, such as 1*s.* 2*d.* per half ounce to Mauritius, has been most unpopular, and weighs very heavily upon our poorer inhabitants. To the Cape Government we, at present, pay 1*s.* for each letter of half an ounce or less to Mauritius; but, now that the Cape has joined the Postal Union, it is hoped that more reasonable terms may be obtained.

ST. HELENA. 1891.

St. Helena largely fulfils the functions of an Imperial ocean post office, and receives and forwards at the cost of the Colony a number of unstamped letters from passing ships. These letters are taxed at 1*s.* per half ounce, that amount being collected on delivery and retained by the Imperial Post Office. This Post Office also, on behalf of the Imperial Government, lands, carts, stores, and re-ships all the outward mails for the Island of Ascension, free of charge; and it is hoped that these services may weigh with the Imperial Post Office in considering our earnest desire to introduce the popular postal rates which have now been extended to all other parts of the Empire.

Conclusion.

The great fall of rocks upon the 17th of April 1890 was commemorated during the year by the unveiling of a large canopied fountain in the centre of the main street in Jamestown. From the subscriptions raised by Mr. Antrobus at the time of the catastrophe, there remained a small surplus after satisfying the more pressing of the claims of the surviving sufferers. This surplus, which was partly composed of donations given for the express purpose of a memorial, would have been wholly inadequate to meet the requirements of the committee, had not the makers of the fountain supplied it at a nominal cost, and the shipping company brought it out free.

The fountain, which was opened on the 12th of September, is a great improvement to the main street of the town.

On the 16th of March, Captain McKechnie, R.N., of H.M.S. "Orontes," took 75 emigrants from the island to the Cape. This kind indulgence, conferred by the Admiralty, was of the greatest advantage to the island, and was thoroughly appreciated by those who were selected from among the many applicants. To Captain McKechnie's great courtesy and consideration, in dealing with the many little points and questions incidental to so novel an undertaking, it is due that no difficulty or friction whatever occurred, either during the embarcation or upon the voyage.

I cannot close my report without referring to some of the experiments conducted during the year by the Reverend J. H. Daine, the Roman Catholic Chaplain. The principal of these were the cultivation of an acre of cotton and the breeding and rearing of silkworms. The cotton has not yet been harvested, but I am not sanguine that a sufficient area of suitable land can be found in St. Helena to develop a paying industry.

It is Mr. Daine's opinion that many of the cottagers could carry on the cultivation of cotton upon land not suitable for other cultivation, and in supplement only of such other work as they may be able to secure from time to time, as at present.

As a very considerable number of islanders only obtain occasional work, his argument may perhaps hold good. It can in

any case be tried without any loss to the island; and for this and other spirited experiments which Mr. Daine is conducting, he deserves the profound gratitude of the community.

With regard to silk, I am somewhat more hopeful that a profitable industry might be established, if it be entirely supported by the labour of women and children. The results so far obtained have been very encouraging; but, until the many thousand mulberry trees which have been planted reach a leaf yielding age, it will not be possible to determine satisfactorily the result of the venture.

I transmit Mr. Daine's report upon the initial stage of the experiment, which is rapidly expanding. Too much weight may have been given to the fact that under the East India Company sericulture was abortive; but, while on the one hand it is not easy to dissociate the disastrous collapse of that experiment, which was conducted, as was every venture of that powerful company, in a most lavish style, from either grave incapacity or something even worse in the conduct of the managers, yet upon the other hand it is somewhat difficult to explain how it came about that a venture, upon which so much had been expended by the East India Company, should have failed to secure the support of some private individuals, if the concern, which could have been purchased in a going condition for a mere song, contained the germs of probable success.

It is, however, possible that the gigantic retrenchment which followed the transfer of the island to the Crown in 1834, the Imperial grant-in-aid falling from 99,000*l.* in that year to 18,000*l.* in 1837, in which year the sericulture establishment was broken up, and the highly-paid services of the curators were dispensed with, may—when added to the undoubtedly very great and general depression which followed Emancipation (1826) in this Island—have so far demoralized the community and shaken the credit of the island, as to render everyone unwilling even to look at a venture entailing any investment of capital in St. Helena.

It is difficult for us at this far-removed date to grasp, in any adequate measure, the prostration which resulted when the annual public expenditure of 100,000*l.* and upwards, drawn from the East India Company in money or stores, and which alone upheld the community, was withdrawn. This artificial condition had rendered it possible for the public servants to maintain so far a semblance of solvency. Nearly all of them engaged in farming and other private speculative ventures, which in too many instances terminated in serious embarrassments, from which the change rendered them hopeless of extricating themselves, and certainly rendered them incapable of entering upon any fresh undertaking.

The facts which I have here indicated were, without doubt, fairly well known to everyone in England who knew anything of the island, and this may sufficiently account for no serious attempt having apparently been made to carry on the silk establishments when it was abandoned by the Government.

ST. HELENA, 1891.

I could write very much upon the history of sericulture in St. Helena; for, although the accounts of its progress are spread over the unindexed record books of many years, they are, when brought to light, so full of minutiæ as to render a full, accurate, and perfect account of the whole matter capable of being drawn from them. I will, however, now content myself by giving a bird's-eye view of the period between January 1827 and December 1834. For although the undertaking was in an embryo state for about a year previous to January 1827 and in an expiring condition for nearly three years after 1834, yet the period I have selected comprises practically the life of the venture in connection with Government.

The total expenditure upon lands was about 10,000*l.* Of this sum, 900*l.* was paid for two properties at the Briars, which were subsequently sold together by Government for 400*l.*, and the remainder was expended upon mulberry land near Longwood. A further sum of not less than 10,000*l.* was expended upon buildings, machinery, and salaries, while the immediate annual saving by the abolition of the establishment was 841*l.*

The entire quantity of silk manufactured was 336¾ lbs., which sold in England for about 300*l.*

It is recorded that "the worms have always been healthy and "thrifty, and the climate is so perfectly congenial to them, that "immense numbers may be raised without fear of losing any "from disease."

How so lavish an expenditure could have produced so miserable a return I cannot say; but that incompetence and carelessness contributed to it in no small measure, I have no doubt.

The year 1891 has probably been the most gloomy and dispiriting during the century, and its financial and social aspect are alike so very depressing in every way that I hasten to conclude my review of it, while the belief in brighter days in store for the island in 1892 is strong upon me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. GREY WILSON.

Rev. J. H. DAINE to the GOVERNOR.

REPORT ON SERICULTURE.

Maldivia, St. Helena,
December 31, 1891.

SIR,

IN August 1891 I received from Bishop Leonard at the Cape my first essay in sericulture.

His Lordship sent me about $\frac{1}{12}$th of an ounce (value, 1*s.* 6*d.*; costs to St. Helena, 10*s.*) of eggs as an experiment, without reference to distinction of race, there being a few of all kinds of

Bombyx Mori, mulberry *annual silkworms*. These all hatched out in September, made cocoons, without *a single* death from disease, and had reproduced themselves in eggs by the 1st of November. Weight of green cocoons, 3 lbs. 2 ozs., value 12*s*. 6*d*., 4*s*. 2*d*. per lb.; as waste cocoons 3*s*. 9*d*., 1*s*. 3*d*. per lb.

Weight of seed reproduced 5 ounces, commercial value 10*s*. an ounce.

In October of 1891 I received from France 3 ounces of eggs, Adrianople white, a distinct race. These, unfortunately, had no guaranteed freedom from disease; an exceptionally wet season, leaves somewhat heated (fermented) through carriage from distant places, all conduced to disease. Overcrowding, want of space, and scarcity of food developed the hereditary germs of flacherie, for this seed came from a district once decimated in 1841.

The whole of this education was stamped out, frames burnt or disinfected, and the moths not permitted to reproduce.

In December eggs imported from a guaranteed source, hatched again from seed reproduced in the autumn of the same year.

The advance of sericulture since the Honourable East India Company's time and up to the discoveries of M. Pasteur, has greatly changed the system. The simple fact of the passage over the Equator of a parcel of eggs, kept on ice during three weeks' passage to St. Helena, constitutes a sufficient hibernation for the eggs; as far as Australia this must now be known, it really constitutes two crops of annual, *one* of St. Helena seed in August, a second in *September* or October from eggs imported from Europe, thus giving St. Helena *two* crops where all other seasons and countries, except India, have one crop and one season only.

The breeds of (eggs) silkworms are improved. The yield per ounce of cocoons by judicious breeding has doubled, 90 to 100 lbs of cocoons being the usual yield per oz. of Swiss and Baghda rearings; so that I am very much encouraged in my experiment for the year 1892.

I beg, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. DAINE

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 99.

ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 63.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1894.

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1894.

[C.—6857.–49.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty s Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
59	Straits Settlements	1891
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,
96	Sierra Leone	,,
97	Fiji	,,
98	Rodrigues	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 99.

ST. HELENA.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 63.]

Governor Grey Wilson to the Marquess of Ripon.

The Castle, St. Helena,
July 17, 1893.

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Island for the year 1892.

The improvement in our general condition, to which I looked forward in closing my last report, was, I am glad to say, fully realised; and, although this improvement lacks many indications of genuine stability, it has afforded us a little respite from the harassing yet hopeless task of maintaining an equilibrium by endeavouring to devise means to reduce the expenditure to the level of the revenue.

These endeavours impose great hardships upon the Civil Servants, and are not conducive to efficiency:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue was 7,691*l.* (817*l.* more than in 1891, but yet 1,037*l.* less than in 1890), and the expenditure 7,445*l.* (843*l.* less than in 1891, and 1,587*l.* less than in 1890); so that there was a surplus at the close of the year of 246*l.*, which can only be regarded as nominal, in view of the amount by which our assets still fall short of our liabilities, an unsound condition that only commenced in 1890.

It is doubtless satisfactory to be able to realise a surplus, however small, but the financial year yields very little cause for genuine satisfaction when compared with previous years, for, with the exception of 1891, the most financially disastrous year the Colony has seen, 1892 takes the very lowest place.

The Customs revenue yielded the chief increase and rose from 3,704*l.* to 4,352*l.* The Post Office receipts rose from 786*l.* to 912*l.*, the highest point ever reached. But, upon the other hand, the revenue from Licences and Taxes fell heavily.

Mr. Antrobus, in his report upon the Blue Book for 1889, gave returns of the shipping, and of the receipts and expenditure for

ST. HELENA. 1892.

the 24 previous years, and I have continued these returns (*see* Appendices 1 to 3) up to the end of 1892, and they show a somewhat less continuous decline than that to which Mr. Antrobus directed special attention.

Taxation.

No alteration took place either in the taxes or licences nevertheless the taxation rose nominally from 1*l.* 3*s.* to 1*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* per head of the population. I say nominally, because the increased revenue from taxation meant only that the garrison, men-of-war, and calling ships, consumed more dutiable liquor and tobacco.

Proof of this is, I think, afforded by the fact that the revenue in 1892 was less than in 1891 from liquor, tea, coffee, boat and game licences, and also from the carriage, cart and horse tax, and water rate—in fact, from all sources save the duty on intoxicants and tobacco.

No taxes remained unpaid at the close of the year.

Local Bodies.

The want of interest taken in the local bodies exhibited the continued deplorable inertia of the inhabitants.

Public Debt.

The loan of 19,500*l.* raised by Sir Charles Elliot between 1868 and 1872, at 7 per cent. per annum, was finally extinguished in April by the payment of the last instalment due of 250*l.* There is, however, a debt of 5,158*l.* for a loan made by the Imperial Government in 1872 to this Colony, but I trust that Her Majesty's Government may, in view of the supreme efforts and sacrifices that the Colony and the Civil Servants have made to maintain a condition of solvency, release the Island from this heavy encumbrance.

Assets and Liabilities.

On the 31st of December the assets of the Colony were 13,629*l.*, and the liabilities 14,233*l.*, excluding the Imperial loan of 5,158*l.*

In 1890 our assets were 813*l.* in excess of our liabilities; in 1891 the liabilities exceeded the assets by 786*l.*; and in 1892, after absorbing the surplus of 246*l.* available on the year's account, our liabilities still exceeded our assets by 604*l.* and even this poor result was only achieved by the saving during the year of 253*l.*, the value of offices temporarily vacant.

Military.

The garrison was increased on the 23rd of March by the arrival of 68 officers and men of the Royal Artillery, bringing

their strength up to 86, and the total strength of the garrison up to 218, of which number 115 belonged to a company of the East Yorkshire Regiment, which, under the command of Major Garnett, replaced one of the York and Lancaster Regiment on July the 11th.

No progress was made locally with the formation of a Militia, and the subject is still engaging the attention of Her Majesty's Government, Lieutenant-Colonel Maclean, late Royal Artillery, being retained here by the Imperial Government to watch and report upon the progress of events.

Public Works.

1,096*l.* was expended upon public works, including the contribution in aid of the maintenance of the local telegraph and signal stations, and the entire cost of the time ball office, water supply, town roads, gardens, and repair of buildings.

Against this expenditure must be set the following revenue :—

	£
Sale of stores, trees, and engineer's work -	215
Sale of water, supplied to shipping - -	398
Water rate - - - - -	179
Rent of house property, model square, artisans' dwellings, &c. - - - - -	160
Rents from bonded store - - - -	62
	£1,014

In the foregoing reimbursements I have not included the rent of houses upon which nothing was spent, or the rents of lands upon which nothing, or upon which only fencing and cleaning, was done, which revenues appear under the heading of Rents ; nor have I included any of the revenue from wharfage, which is brought to account under the heading of Customs, although the entire cost of maintaining the wharf and repairing and renewing the cranes falls under the Public Works expenditure.

During 1892 nearly 200*l.* was spent upon a new crane, and in removing rocks overhanging the wharf which endangered the traffic thereon.

Legislation.

Four Ordinances were passed during the year. Numbers 1 and 3 relate to the office of Coroner. The appointment of Coroner had been an elective one, but it is now vested in Her Majesty ; and power is given to hold, with the Governor's consent, an inquisition without the aid of a jury.

Numbers 2 and 4 are Supply Ordinances.

Council.

Captain R. C. A. Howe, of the York and Lancaster Regiment, was superseded in March by Captain H. B. Gundry, Royal Artillery, who brought the detachment of Artillery out and was a member of Council from April 6th to the 2nd of August, when Major R. de Villamil, Royal Engineers, who landed on July 11th, was sworn in. Mr. Saul Solomon was absent from the Island during the whole of the year.

Civil Establishment.

The office of Harbour Master was vacant during the year pending the appointment of a retired Naval officer. Mr. James Boyd continued to perform the duties in conjunction with his other work.

Mr. J. Homagee was absent on leave from March 30th to July 11th. Mr. R. M. L. Pritchard (retired) acted for him as Supervisor of Customs. The Honourable T. E. Fowler and Colonel Allen Maclean, late Royal Artillery, acted as Police Magistrates, and Mr. H. S. Hands acted as Clerk of the Peace and Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Doctor F. E. Welby, the Colonial Surgeon, was absent from the Island from February 13th to May 16th. The coolie ship "Bann," bound to Demerara, lost her surgeon on the voyage, and I was compelled to send Doctor Welby on in charge of her.

Fortunately the Flagship was in harbour at the time and I obtained from her the services of Surgeon Bowden, R.N., to act as Colonial Surgeon, which, by the courtesy of the Admiralty, he continued to do until Doctor Welby returned.

George Ward, Governor's Messenger, resigned, and James Peters was appointed in his place.

Mr. G. Fuller, Assistant Master of the Country School, resigned, on appointment as Master of the Hussey Charity Country School.

The Honourable T. E. Fowler, who had been Coroner for 37 years, retired on pension, and Mr. Wm. A. Thorpe was appointed to the office, the remuneration of which is now by fees in lieu of a fixed salary.

Mr. R. G. Short was appointed Sheriff.

Pensions.

Mr. John Young, Collector of Customs, who was pensioned in 1852, died during the year at the age of 89, having drawn his pension for a few days over 40 years.

The annual amount for which the Colony was, on the 31st December, liable on account of pensions, was 1,758*l.*, or nearly a quarter of our entire revenue.

The ages of two of our pensioners who draw the largest pensions were, in 1892, 84 and 94 respectively.

Population.

The population may be estimated at 4,000.

Education.

The number of scholars on the rolls shows a slight decrease (from 837 to 829).

The Government schools are suffering from the want of assistant teachers, whom in our present financial straits it is not easy to provide.

The examinations yielded on the whole better results than in 1891.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports was 30,386*l.*, an improvement of 3,004*l.* over 1891; and the exports, including 6,721*l.* in specie, were of the value of 7,863*l.*

In addition to the foregoing imports and exports, whalebone and oil, to the value of 20,685*l.*, was transhipped to American vessels by the American whaling fleet in Jamestown Harbour.

The consumption of beer rose from 157 hogsheads in 1891 to 301 in 1892, and from 200 dozen bottles in 1891 to 273 in 1892, and wines and spirits show a corresponding increase, the total increase in the revenue under these headsbeing nearly 400*l.* A satisfactory rise took place in the revenue from water supplied to ships, tonnage dues, and wharfage.

Shipping.

562 vessels were sighted during the year, and of these 223 "called" and 189 traded with licensed boatmen. This number (412) is 51 less than in 1891, there being an increase of 12 in the number of vessels calling, *i.e.*, anchoring, and a decrease of 63 in the number of vessels trading without anchoring.

From January 1st, 1892, a record was kept of every sail sighted, and not, as previously, only of vessels communicating by signal, calling, *i.e.*, anchoring, or trading without calling. Had the record been kept upon the lines previously adopted, only 462 instead of 562 would appear as sighted (*see* Appendix 3).

Criminal Statistics.

136 cases were reported to the police, 107 persons were summarily convicted, 4 cases were dismissed, and 13 persons were discharged. Four persons were indicted in the Supreme Court. In three cases a verdict was given for the prisoner, and a charge of manslaughter fell through. The total cost of the gaol for the year was 139, and the daily average number in prison was 2·23. No deaths occurred.

Hospital.

The health of the Island during the year was very satisfactory, the number of deaths (56) being the same as in 1891, representing a death-rate of 13·4 per 1,000. The number of cases treated in the Hospital rose from 94 in 1891 to 137 in 1892; the number of deaths (7) being the same in each year; 44 of the patients treated in 1892 were sailors.

Meteorology.

The year was an important one for the Island. The Meteorological Council of the United Kingdom equipped a station at Hutts Gate, at an altitude of 1,900 feet, with the following instruments:—

One anemograph.
One barometer.
Six ordinary thermometers.
One maximum registering thermometer.
One minimum registering thermometer.
One 8-inch rain gauge.

The Council also provided the salary of the officer in charge. Observations were commenced in February, and have since been regularly recorded.

It is hoped that valuable results may be obtained from this station, which is under the care of Mr. H. S Hands, a zealous young Civil Servant who takes a keen interest in the work. The lowest temperature in the country recorded during the year was 48°, and the highest 78°. The lowest recorded in town was 66° and the highest 80°. 1892 was markedly cooler than 1891, when 86 degrees of heat were registered.

The rainfall at Longwood, to the eastward of the Island, was 24½ inches; at Hutts Gate, in the centre of the Island, 34¼ inches; and at Woodlands, in the western district, 29¾ inches. The greatest fall in the Island was 2·36 inches in 18 hours, which was recorded at the last station on 10th June. Thirty inches being taken as an average annual rainfall, the year must be recorded as a somewhat dry one, for previous to 1892 the rainfall was only taken in the eastern and western sides, and not at Hutts Gate, in the centre, which, from the year's records, appears to be the wettest locality

The anemograph record, owing to mechanical difficulties which have been overcome, was not satisfactory during part of the year, but doubtless a more reliable record will be obtained in 1893.

The greatest force of wind recorded during the time the record was taken was 40 miles an hour in November, and the least 8 miles, with an average number of calm days of 7½ per cent.

Savings Bank.

2,465*l.* was deposited and 1,240*l.*, including interest, withdrawn. The total deposits rose from 10,125*l.* to 11,870*l.*, while the number of investors fell from 112 to 108. The net profit upon the year's transaction was only 14*l.*, as the Government was compelled to appropriate, for current expenses, a portion of the deposits which should have been invested to meet our liabilities to the depositors.

To meet these liabilities, amounting to 11,870*l.* on the 31st of December, we held stock and bonds to the nominal value of only 9,487*l.*, and of the market value of about 9,200*l.*

In connexion with the small number of depositors, it should be remembered that there is no other bank in the Colony, that there is no limit to the amount that may be deposited, and that all the Friendly Societies, who hold the bulk of the people's savings, use the bank.

Post Office.

The gross revenue from the Post Office was 912*l.*—the largest during the last 12 years, and the expenditure was 177*l.*

The increase in the revenue as compared with 1891 is 125*l.* and the large sum of 139*l.* received from stamp dealers throughout the world, has contributed largely to this satisfactory result.

11,790 letters were sent from here to the United Kingdom, and 5,616 to other places; and, though the number of letters received is not known, it may be estimated at 18,000. 837 parcels were received and 215 despatched. The money order business amounted to 4,530*l.*

At the close of 1892 a substantial reduction was made in the postal rate of letters to the eastward of the Cape. One shilling and twopence per half ounce had been charged, and of that sum 1*s.* was paid to the Cape Government. The reduced rate is 7½*d.* per half ounce to all places other than the United Kingdom.

I do not expect that 1893 will show such a satisfactory postal revenue as 1892. I am, however, not without hope that, if Her Majesty's Government will continue to pay the Colony the postage upon official letters upon the present scale, it may be possible in 1894 to reduce other postage from 6*d.* to 2½*d.* the half ounce.

Cotton-growing and Sericulture.

The experiments in the cultivation of cotton and in sericulture, conducted by the Rev. J. H. Daine, yielded no decisively satisfactory results during the year, but they are, upon the whole, not discouraging.

Although it is open to question whether Mr. Daine, with the limited means at his disposal, is not conducting experiments somewhat too varied and extensive, yet his enterprise in a country so devoid of it as this cannot but be commended, and I hope that he may be able to instil into the people of this Island some of his versatile energy.

ST. HELENA. 1892.

It will be seen from Mr. Daine's reports, which I transmit herewith, that, pending the development of the mulberry cuttings, experiments have been tried with the castor oil silkworm. It was, however, found that the castor oil plant of St. Helena is not the Ricinus Communis, and, seeds of that plant having been imported, further experiments will be conducted by Mr. Daine.

A very misleading printer's error occurred in my last year's report upon the Blue Book. The total expenditure upon lands in connection with sericulture was 10,000*l.*; and of this sum 9,000*l.* (and not 900*l.* as printed) was paid for two properties at the Briars, which were subsequently sold together by Government for 400*l.*

Shells.

During the years 1884-6 Capt. W. H. Turton, R.E., who was then stationed in St. Helena, made a very extensive and valuable collection of shells, which he subsequently presented to the British Museum.

Mr. Edgar A. Smith, of the Natural History Section, has now reported upon the collection and on the marine molluscan fauna of this Island,* and in doing so says, "The greatest praise is due to "Capt. Turton for the excellent manner in which the collection "was made and put up for transmission to this country, and the "amount of time and labour bestowed upon it must have been "very considerable."

Mr. Melliss, in his work on St. Helena, enumerates only 41 marine species; but, thanks to Capt. Turton's energy, no less than 138 additional named species are now added to the list, yet this, as Mr. Smith says, does not at all approximate the total of the species which really exist around St. Helena.

The marine molluscan fauna of St. Helena appears most to resemble that of the West Indies; for of the known species in Capt. Turton's collection just 50 per cent. are common to the two localities. About 25 species or 30 per cent. are identical with Mediterranean forms, and about six occur in all three localities.

A report upon the land shells of St. Helena, also based chiefly upon collections made by Capt. Turton, has likewise been published by Mr. Smith.† In it nearly all the known species, both living and extinct, are figured.

General.

In February the Bishop of St. Helena paid a visit to Tristan d'Acunha, distant 1,500 miles. His Lordship reports that the social and moral condition of the few inhabitants was of a very satisfactory nature.

The population was still somewhat upon the decrease, owing to emigration, and now numbers little over 50.

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* Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London, 1890, pp. 247–317, plates XXI.–XXIV. Annals and Magazine of Natural History, 1892, Vol. X., pp. 129–135, plate XII.

† Op. Cit., 1892, pp. 258–270, plates XXI.–XXII.

During the year the Government of Brazil intimated to this Government that they did not intend to continue to maintain a consular representative in St. Helena, and that consulate was accordingly abolished.

The Colonial Government has for several years fostered the cultivation of potatoes by the annual importation of seed potatoes, which are most generously brought to the Island freight free by the Union Steamship Company. There is no doubt whatever that the small grower has been enormously benefited by these importations, and from my personal experience I can state that the Island potatoes have greatly improved. I hope shortly to transmit to your Lordship a report* upon this matter from a practical farmer.

I must, with regret, record the lamentable fact that, with a decreasing population, it became necessary to make a considerable increase in the accommodation of the Lunatic Asylum. The additional rooms are in every way satisfactory and suitable, and I trust will more than suffice for any calls that may be made on them in future years.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. Grey Wilson,
Governor.

Report on Sericulture, 1892.

St. Helena,
July 16, 1893.

Sir,

I have the honour to present the following facts on sericulture, extracted from my diary, together with samples of silk for the year 1892.

In October of 1892, eggs hatched with greater simultaneity than the education of April to May of the same year, which permitted the feeder more leisure than in the preceding occasions, as the worms fed and were dormant, with little exception, for the usual term.

There was a total exemption from pebrine, and the failures were too trifling to record; a few died from eating leaves rather too succulent, which might be termed mild flacherie.

As the educations for 1892 were merely for observation, and reproduction of seed, together with the collection of samples, no commercial statistics can be rendered, as the necessary food, mulberry leaves, is not yet in sufficient quantity to re-commence the cocoonery.

The report on the samples of reeled silk and cocoons sent by me to the Kimberley Exhibition, grown at Maldivia, St. Helena, has not reached me.

The specimens of silk enclosed were reeled by Mr. Wardle, President of the Silk Association of Great Britain and Ireland, Author of "Wild Silks of India," and other sericultural works

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* *See* page 14.

ST. HELENA. 1892.

who is good enough to interest himself, and has rendered me great help in my effort to establish a silk industry in St. Helena.

This gentleman is of opinion that, when there is sufficient food in proximity to the cocooneries, silk in St. Helena will be made in commercially paying quantities.

The end of the years '93 and '94 will decide the problem of silk in St. Helena, as quite a quantity of mulberry cuttings are now rooted, not by any means sufficient, but such a quantity as would justify (if the next educations are manipulated cheaply and healthily) a speculator to take up lands and plant mulberry trees.

Pending the growth of mulberry trees, I have been much struck with the possibility of the acclimatization of the Castor-oil silkworm, the Attacus ricini, or Eria silkworm.

I have received from Mr. Nitya Mukerji, Special Sericulturist to the Government of India, a few specimens of Eria cocoons; these arrived desiccated, and quite dead. I applied to many sources for this species of silkworm, but failed on several different occasions. I heard, also, that the authorities at the Royal Gardens, Kew, had some for me, but they did not reach St. Helena.

I had given up hope of being able to import these chrysalides alive, when quite unexpectedly the Chamber of Commerce of Silk, Lyons, France, who are also benevolently interested in the establishment of this industry in St. Helena, sent me a second package of cocoons, which happily emerged in a few days after their arrival.

The moths were very vigorous and beautiful. In a few days I had some 20,000 eggs and anticipated a large return of cocoons; to my astonishment I found that the newly-hatched worms would not feed upon the St. Helena castor-oil plant, and as the presumed Ailanthus at Plantation (a leaf the Eria will also feed upon), was not in foliage, I had with grief to watch my treasured Eria die by the thousands. On investigation it turns out that our supposed castor-oil of St. Helena is the Curcas purgans, and if there ever were castor-oil plants in the Island they have hybridized with the former. I have been promised a few more Eria cocoons and have received a dozen castor-oil seeds which have germinated, and show that the soil of St. Helena is suitable to them. Your Excellency has also promised me a supply of seed, and His Lordship the Bishop of Charadon, the Roman Catholic Bishop in Cape Town, has kindly sent 5*l.* to His Grace the Archbishop of Bombay to be expended in Eria cocoons and the cost of transit to St. Helena.

The Eria silkworm makes seven crops per annum, the castor-oil is perennial in this Island, and from the few plants, and cocoons already received I feel almost confident that if the mulberry silk should turn out indifferently, the Eria or castor-oil will be a success, instead of waiting three to four years for food for the Bombyx Mori, or mulberry silkworm. In three months tons of Ricinus communis castor-oil can be raised, the food of the Attacus ricini, Eria, or castor-oil, silkworm. I shall have the honour in due course to inform you of the results of my observations and investigations.

I beg, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. DAINE.

Report on Cotton, 1892.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the cotton planted in the Briars field, kindly lent to me for experiment by the Honourable George Moss, member of your Excellency's Council, has turned out better than expected.

One pound of cotton in the boll has yielded 11 ounces of seed and five of lint.

A tree averages, in full growth, one pound of cotton; an acre should carry 2,000 plants, which would give a bale of cotton of, more or less, 600 pounds of lint, and about 1,350, more or less, pounds of cotton seed, which in its raw state is worth more than cotton-cake as a feeding stuff. It can be fed, as Indian corn is, to oxen and cows.

These figures would assure the cultivator at least 10*l.* per acre per annum; for the seed will pay for ginning, carriage, and the etceteras of shipping. This would be a great help to the small agricultural landholders in the Island.

I would advocate other varieties of cotton than that which I have planted at the Briars, which is Gossypium herbaceum, the United States species ripening much more rapidly and admitting a greater number of trees to the acre. They are of a more dwarf nature, and, from specimens I have cultivated in other parts of the Island, are even heavier croppers than the St. Helena variety, and the staple of lint was valued by the Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association at higher figures than the Gossypium herbaceum of the Briars field.

I may add that the Briars field has not received the cultivation due to the cotton plant, and has been ploughed but once, and hoed once only; one half of the plants encountered a severe drought, from which they have not yet fully recovered, whereas the other half bid fair to become forest trees.

This little auxiliary industry would find employment for a gin, conjointly with a small fibre machine such as is used in Guatemala and Yucatan and other Central States of America; such a fibre machine I have imported, and when I have obtained a horse-wind, or oil-engine motor, I hope to be able to give an interesting report upon an experiment to utilize the fibrous plants of St. Helena.

I have, &c.

(Signed) John H. Daine.

W. Grey Wilson, Esq., C.M.G.,
Governor of St. Helena,
&c. &c. &c.

ST. HELENA. 1892.

REPORT ON SEED POTATOES.

Governor GREY WILSON to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

The Castle, Saint Helena,
September 4, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit a Report from Mr. H. B. Morrice, one of the leading gentlemen farmers of this island, upon the results of the importation by the Government of seed potatoes.

2. Mr. Morrice, it will be seen, is of opinion that nothing but good has resulted from the experiment which, with Lord Knutsford's consent, I originated in 1889 ; and as these importations* have cost the Government nothing, I trust your Lordship will sanction the continuance of annual importations.

3. I am not able to concur in Mr. Morrice's view that the small growers do not as a rule purchase the seed direct from Government, as, out of 19 purchasers in 1893, 14 were undoubtedly growers in a small way.

4. I venture to suggest that this report would enhance the value of, and interest in, my report on the Blue Book for 1892 if printed with it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. GREY WILSON,
Governor.

Enclosure.

H. B. MORRICE, Esq., to the GOVERNOR.

St. Helena,
September 2, 1893.

SIR,

AT your request I have gathered information as to the effect upon the island potato crops of the seed imported by the Government, and have the honour to report to your Excellency as follows:—

The purchasers of the seed are unanimously of opinion that it must be beneficial to have fresh seed imported from England, but owing to the fact that twice out of the three times that the Government has imported it the seasons have been exceptionally bad, only a few are able to say positively that they have had better crops. One grower says that from 100 lbs. of seed he

* Three importations :—February 1889, February 1892, and January 1893.

planted last February he got 7 cwt. and but for the rot he computes he would have had 10 cwt., whilst from his old seed he never got more than four or five fold. Another planter states that he considers he gets fully fourteen fold from Government seed, of a better quality of potato, and that he has only been successful with potatoes since he bought that seed. On the other hand, several purchasers report a total loss of crops.

In answer to your question "can it be said that the small "grower has benefited?" I can only say that though few have done so directly, many, I think, have indirectly.

The price of the first two lots of seed imported put them quite out of reach of the poor man, but as he buys his seed from the larger growers he probably benefited in the end. Now that, owing to the generosity of the Union Company in bringing the potatoes out freight free, the price has come down, the small growers will probably buy direct from the Government; but whether they do so or not there is no doubt that the importation of seed is a universal benefit to all potato growers, because if the small grower buys seed from the larger grower the more often the latter is able to renew his seed the better for the former.

The opposition on the part of many business men in Jamestown to this encouragement given by the Government to a branch of agriculture which brings some hundreds of pounds yearly into the Island is, to me, inexplicable, seeing that probably the whole of this money eventually finds its way into their shops. If the cultivation of potatoes interfered with the sale of rice one could understand it, but it is not so; St. Helenians are not a potato-eating race, and, with the exception of what is sold to the garrison, nearly the whole of the crop is sold to shipping, or is exported, so that it brings in money which would otherwise be totally lost to the island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. B. MORRICE.

APPENDIX 1.

SHIPPING, 1866–92.*

Year.	Merchant Sailing Vessels.		Ships of War and Mail Steamers.	Total.	Difference from previous Year.		—
	British.	Foreign.			Decrease.	Increase.	
1866	529	322	67	918	—	68	
1867	503	309	66	878	40	—	
1868	501	318	72	891	—	13	
1869	456	319	78	853	38	—	Suez Canal opened.
1870	416	322	69	807	46	—	
1871	380	308	70	758	49	—	
1872	319	285	63	667	91	—	
1873	370	291	56	717	—	50	
1874	380	247	57	684	33	—	
1875	298	242	65	605	79	—	Average Annual Decrease 1870–81, $27\frac{1}{3}$
1876	306	222	54	582	23	—	
1877	335	266	63	664	—	82	
1878	362	251	56	669	—	5	
1879	310	228	65	603	66	—	
1880	306	191	67	564	39	—	
1881	245	215	65	525	39	—	
1882	233	203	61	497	28	—	Tonnage Dues abolished.
1883	250	213	58	521	—	24	
1884	188	160	66	414	107	—	Average Annual Decrease 1883–5, $15\frac{2}{3}$
1885	225	160	65	450	—	36	
1886	166	153	58	377	73	—	1884–6, 48 Passing Ships Ordinance enacted.
1887	150	111	56	317	60	—	
1888	142	122	64	330	—	13	Average Annual Decrease 1887–9 $29\frac{2}{3}$
1889	134	110	44	288	42	—	
1890	90	83	38	211	77	—	
1891	89	76	46	211	—	—	Average Annual Decrease 1890–2, $21\frac{2}{3}$
1892	85	99	39	223	—	12	
					852	222	
Net decrease since 1869 - -					630		Average Annual Decrease 1870–92, $27\frac{5}{23}$

* This return includes only ships which "called."

APPENDIX 2.

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE, 1866–92.

Year.	Revenue.		Total Revenue exclusive of Grants and Loans.	Total Expenditure including repayment of Debt.	Surplus.	Deficit.	Grants and Loans from Parliament.	Loans bearing interest.
	Customs.	Other Sources.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1866	17,257	5,895	23,152	26,110	—	2,958	—	5,000
1867	17,159	5,867	23,026	27,113	—	4,087	—	—
1868	13,402	5,304	18,706	26,203	—	7,497	3,000	5,000
1869	15,076	5,704	20,780	24,626	—	3,846	—	5,000
1870	11,094	4,880	15,974	18,943	—	2,969	—	1,250
1871	10,621	4,937	15,558	18,439	—	2,881	950	—
1872	10,121	3,807	13,928	27,376	—	13,448	4,208	8,250
1873	11,138	3,842	14,980	16,699	—	1,719	—	—
1874	10,003	3,979	13,982	14,522	—	540	—	—
1875	10,041	3,575	13,616	14,040	—	424	—	—
1876	9,555	3,612	13,167	13,329	—	162	—	—
1877	9,808	2,973	12,781	18,007	—	5,226	5,500	—
1878	10,517	3,681	14,198	12,815	1,383	—	—	—
1879	10,470	3,685	14,155	12,486	1,669	—	—	—
1880	8,547	3,403	11,950	11,870	80	—	—	—
1881	9,198	3,228	12,426	12,801	—	375	—	—
1882	8,253	3,247	11,500	11,212	288	—	Grants for Mail Service.	—
1883	7,091	3,175	10,266	11,145	—	879		
1884	6,611	3,360	9,971	10,807	—	836	450	—
1885	6,017	3,032	9,049	*13,099	—	4,050	2,050	—
1886	6,580	3,606	10,186	*11,210	—	1,024	1,914	—
1887	4,590	3,454	8,044	*11,382	—	3,338	3,000	—
1888	5,841	3,425	9,266	*10,448	—	1,182	2,275	—
1889	4,891	3,518	8,409	*8,979	—	570	100	—
1890	5,656	3,073	8,729	9,032	—	303	—	—
1891	3,704	3,170	6,874	8,288	—	1,414	—	—
1892	4,352	3,339	7,691	7,445	246	—	—	—
				Total grant in aid for Mail Service - - -			£9,789	—
* Including payments for Mail Service amounting in the five years to -							£9,848	—

APPENDIX 3.

Year.	Ships* Signalled.	Passed without trading.	Traded with Boatmen.	Called.	Called and traded with Boatmen.
1886 - -	686	290	90	377	396
1887 - -	619	193	109	317	427
1888 - -	641	145	166	330	496
1889 - -	604	55	261	288	549
1890 - -	480	73	196	211	407
1891 - -	502	39	252	211	463
1892 - -	462	50	189	223	412

* In 1892 a record was kept of every ship sighted, and 100 were sighted in addition to the 462 which were signalled.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 53.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 10.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.-3.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
17	Falkland Islands	1890
18	Labuan	,,
19	British Honduras	,,
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles, and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 53.

ST. LUCIA.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 10.]

Sir W. HELY-HUTCHINSON to LORD KNUTSFORD.

St. Vincent, August 20th, 1892.

Forwarded.

(Signed) WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR, Government House, August 12th, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the Blue Book for the year 1891.

2. I regret that owing to the late period at which I received some of the returns, I was unable to forward my report at an earlier date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir W. Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1891.

TAXES, DUTIES, AND FEES.

Excise Duty on Spirits.

Throughout the year the strength of Spirits had been tested by the use of the bubble, but on the 31st of December an Ordinance

became law substituting Sykes's hydrometer for the bubble. By the use of this instrument the exact strength of the spirit may be ascertained, and accurate calculations made for revenue and other purposes.

Dues falling on the Shipping.

These remain unchanged, except that a fee of 4*s.* for the use of the harbour master's boat in running lines has been authorised. This adds nothing to the charges paid by the shipping, as the fee was previously paid to the boat's crew.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year 1891 amounted to 49,326*l.* and 53,906*l.* respectively, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to 4,580*l.*

The estimated revenue and expenditure were, respectively, 48,624*l.* and 48,155*l.* The actual revenue exceeded the estimated revenue by 702*l.*, and the actual expenditure the estimated expenditure by 5,751*l.*

The revenue for 1890 was returned at 50,232*l.* and the expenditure at 45,430*l.* The revenue for 1891 was, therefore, 906*l.* less, and the expenditure 8,476*l.* more, than the respective figures for 1890.

The following table shows the principal heads of revenue under which there was a falling off, and of expenditure under which there was an increase, in 1891 as compared with the preceding year, and also the principal items of decrease in the one case and of increase in the other.

Revenue.

Heads of Receipts.	Decrease in 1891 compared with 1890.
	£
Customs - - - - - - -	243
Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Light Dues - - -	316
Fees of Court and of office - - - - -	231
Land Sales (the proceeds of land sales were transferred in 1891 from General Revenue to a special account) - -	547

Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure.	Increase in 1891 as compared with 1890.
	£
Treasury and Customs - - - - - -	568
Audit Department - - - - - -	738
Medical - - - - - - -	597
Immigration - - - - - - -	931
Education - - - - - - -	637
Miscellaneous - - - - - -	894
Post Office - - - - - - -	432
Colonial Engineer's Department - - -	721
Materials and Stores - - - - -	2,125
Census - - - - - - -	415
Special Votes - - - - - - -	435

The revenue and expenditure for 1891 compare as follows with the average revenue and expenditure for the preceding five years 1886–90 :—

———	1891.	Average for five years 1886–90.	Increase over average for preceding five years.
	£	£	£
Revenue - - - -	49,326	43,956	5,370
Expenditure - - - -	53,906	44,481	9,425

The decrease in the revenue for 1891, compared with the previous year, is attributable to several causes. The decrease in Customs receipts was mainly due to a reduction in the number of wage-earning people employed on military and public works, and a consequent diminution in the spending power of a considerable number of the working-class consumers; and to the amount of the Customs receipts carried to the credit of revenue being reduced by two-fifths of the duty received on tobacco having been assigned to the Immigration Fund.

The decrease in Port and Harbour Dues was chiefly caused by the discontinuance of certain dues charged on steamers entering

ST. LUCIA. 1891.

the port of Castries; and the falling off in the receipts from fees of office, was owing principally to fewer vessels having been piloted than in the previous year.

The decrease as regards land sales arose from the transfer from general revenue of the proceeds of land sales to a special account.

The increase of 8,476*l.* in the expenditure for 1891 as compared with 1890 was, in the main, due to the following circumstances:—The adoption of the system of increase to salaries of certain officers by annual increments; the payment of the audit expenses of 1890 in 1891; the resumption of coolie immigration, which caused increased expenditure under the head "Medical"; the charging against general revenue of salaries and certain other expenses incurred in connection with immigration which had previously been charged to the Immigration Fund; an increased vote for educational purposes; a larger allowance to the military in lieu of exemption from customs duty; an increased contribution to the Imperial postal subsidy; the rearrangement of the offices of Director of Public Works and Director of Surveys; the formation of a Public Works Store Department and the purchase of stores and materials; the cost of the census; and, under the head of Special Votes, the cost of plans, reports, &c., in connection with the proposed new water works for Castries, and the grant made to Martinique in aid of the sufferers from the hurricane.

Assets and Liabilities.

The subjoined statement exhibits the assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December 1891.

Assets.	£	Liabilities.	£
Cash	363	Savings Bank Deposit Account	9,961
Colonial Bank Current Account	2,767	Castries Town and Towns and Villages Funds	2,790
„ Deposit Account	7,500	Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,737
Investments on account of Savings Bank	5,000	Imperial Post Office Fund and Colonial Money Order Account	477
Investments on account of Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund	1,504	Grenada Account	1,296
Miscellaneous Advances	9,674	Public Works Loan Works Account	5,608
Crown Agent's Current Account	672	Land Sales Fund	352
London and Westminster Bank	114	Suspense Account	3
	£27,596	Prisons Manufacturing Account	140
Surplus Stores Account	2,125	Sinking Funds	114
	£29,721	Surplus Assets	7,246
			£29,721

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at the end of the year under review amounted to 148,770*l.*, and was made up as shown in the annexed table.

Debts.	Amount due at end of year 1891.	Amount of original debt.	Source from which interest and sinking fund are paid.
	£	£	
Central Sugar Factory Loans -	31,600	40,000	General Revenue.
Immigration Loans - -	21,800	23,000	Immigration Fund.
Harbour of Castries Improvement Loans - - -	84,000	84,000	General Revenue.
Public Works Loans - -	11,370	11,370	Do.
	£148,770	£158,370	

The sum of 1,000*l.*, was paid off during the year by the redemption of drawn debentures. The public debt at the end of the year was equal to about three years' revenue, and represented an indebtedness equal to 3*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

The deposits in the Savings Bank during 1891 amounted to 8,268*l.*; the number of depositors at the end of the year was 909, thus giving an average of a little over 9*l.* per depositor. The withdrawals amounted to 8,264*l.* The deposits and withdrawals almost balanced each other. The total amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year was 9,961*l.*

In 1890 the deposits amounted to 7,630*l.*, the withdrawals to 6,521*l.*, and the depositors numbered 681. The amount to the credit of depositors on the 31st December 1890 was 9,492*l.*

Municipalities and other Public Bodies.

The town of Castries is governed by an elective Town Board consisting of eight members. All the other towns and villages are under the supervision and management of Town Wardens, acting under the control of the Governor in Council.

The revenue of the towns and villages for 1891 amounted to 3,665*l.*, and the expenditure to 3,777*l.* The revenue is derived

principally from House Tax, the rate being levied upon the assessed annual rental, or value for rental, of the property. The rate varies from 5 per cent. in some of the villages to 8 per cent. in others and in the towns.

Military.

The only expenditure of the Colony in respect of the troops was 867*l.*, paid as an allowance in lieu of duty-free goods. The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 35,059*l.*

Public Works.

The works executed by the Public Works Department during the year consisted partly of works of construction and partly of works of maintenance and repair. Under the former head may be enumerated the following as the principal works of construction carried out during the year:—The completion of the new police barracks at Dennery and of that at Soufrière; the addition of a verandah to the medical officer's quarters at Dennery Hospital; the building of a new kitchen at the Poor Asylum; the erection of a harbour-master's boathouse at Castries, and of a boat jetty at Rat Island (for Yaws Hospital); the completion of the infirmary at the Royal Gaol, and of the main building of the Baron Asylum; the laying of a new and larger main from the Castries Water-works reservoir to the town; and the erection of one of the two leading lights for marking the line of entrance of the Castries Harbour.

Under the head of repairs the following were the principal items of work done:—General repairs to Governor's office, Post Office, and Treasury; general repairs to Dennery Hospital, Soufrière Lunatic Asylum, Gros Islet Police Barracks, and to Royal Gaol; repair of damage done at Eastern end of North wharf by storm on the 18th August (the day of the hurricane at Martinique, and the reopening, repairing, and renewal of drains on the Eastern reclamation and at the Carenage.

As regards roads and bridges the work executed was mainly that of maintenance and repair; the only new work of importance undertaken being the opening of a new trace from the fourth mile mark on the Dennery road, by means of which the very steep gradients of the Piton Flore are avoided; and the erection of a new iron bridge over the Grognet Ravine to replace the old wooden second bridge, Morne Road.

The total sum spent on public works for the year was 10,172*l.* of which expenditure 8,136*l.*, was paid out of General Revenue and the balance of 2,036*l.*, out of loans.

Legislation.

Seventeen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year.

Their titles are as follows :—

(1.) An Ordinance to authorise the raising of a Loan, not exceeding in the whole the sum of 28,000*l.*, for the purposes of Indian Immigration, and to provide for the repayment of the said Loan.

(2.) An Ordinance to amend the Surveyors and Boundaries Settlement Ordinance, 1886.

(3.) An Ordinance for taking the census of the Island of St. Lucia

(4.) An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Immigration.

(5.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Ordinance, 1888.

(6.) An Ordinance to protect Children under the age of twelve years from being made to perform Excessive Manual Labour.

(7.) An Ordinance to provide for the payment of certain sums of money for the Public Service of the year 1890.

(8.) An Ordinance to impose Dues on Ships entering the Harbour of Castries.

(9.) An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886.

(10.) An Ordinance to provide for the appointment of an Administrator-General, and for vesting in him certain powers and duties hitherto attaching to the office of Colonial Trustee.

(11.) An Ordinance to amend the Quarantine Ordinance, 1871.

(12.) An Ordinance to amend the Immigration Loan Ordinance, 1891.

(13.) An Ordinance to regulate the carriage of passengers between St. Lucia and certain other places adjacent thereto.

(14.) An Ordinance to authorise and confirm certain expenditure incurred for the Public Service during the year 1889.

(15.) An Ordinance to provide for the Service of the Colony of St. Lucia for the year 1892.

(16.) An Ordinance to amend the Tax Ordinance, 1875.

(17.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881.

The most important measure passed during the year was the Immigration Ordinance 1891. This enactment deals in a comprehensive manner with all matters connected with immigration. It, *inter alia*, defines the duties and powers of the Protector

of Immigrants; fixes the conditions and terms upon which immigrants are to be indentured to employers, and the rates of wages to be paid both for time and task work; and provides for the protection, medical care, and general well-being of the immigrants while in the Colony.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. C. C. Knollys administered the Government up to the 26th of May, on which day I arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government in succession to Mr. R. B. Llewelyn.

The Colonial Engineer and Surveyor's Department was reconstructed and the duties divided between two new offices. The execution of public works was committed to the Director of Public Works for the Windward Islands, and a foreman of works, resident in St. Lucia, was appointed for three years. The office of Director of Surveys for the Windward Islands was created, and the duties performed previously by the Colonial Surveyor were transferred to that officer, who was placed at the head of a Crown Lands and Survey Department. Mr. Messervy, Director of Public Works at Grenada, became the head of the Public Works Department, and Mr. Reeve, late Colonial Engineer and Surveyor at St. Lucia, was appointed Director of Surveys for the Windward Islands.

Mr. H. Gamble, harbourmaster and pilot, was dismissed from the service, and Mr. G. C. Bruce, harbourmaster and second Customs officer at St. Helena, was appointed in his stead.

Mr. Low, magistrate of the first district, who was transferred to Grenada in the previous year to act as treasurer of that Colony, continued absent throughout the year. The arrangement which had been made in consequence of his transfer remained the same, namely, the magistrate of the third district, Mr. J. W. Elliot, acted as magistrate of the first district, and Mr. T. H. Dix, magistrate of the second district, discharged Mr. Elliot's duties in conjunction with his own.

Pensions.

There was no change in the pension list during the year.

Population.

The birth-rate for the year under review was above, and the death-rate below, the average for previous years; and the gain to the population resulting from the excess of births over deaths was 734.

Census.

The census taken on the 5th April 1891 shows that the population of St. Lucia on that day was 42,220. The population in

1881 was 38,551. There was, therefore, an increase of 3,380 in the intervening 10 years, or an average annual increase of 338. Small as this increase is, it has not been a natural one, but has been contributed to by the addition of the troops, and by increased East Indian coolie and other immigration, which sources have supplied 1,806 out of the 3,380 shown as the gain in the decade; leaving 1,574, or 157 per annum, as the apparent natural increase in the population for the last 10 years. Against the poverty of this increment, however, there must be set an uncertain allowance which is to be taken into account in respect of the emigration which took place to Colon during the construction of the Panama Canal. Unfortunately no record was kept of the numbers who were lured away by the prospect of quickly acquired wealth, nor has any note been taken of those who have returned. Some slight and slow repatriation has been going on, but it is to be feared that of those who sailed away dreaming of easy work, rapidly acquired wealth, and a happy return to their native land, a large portion met, instead, with hardship, sickness, and disappointment, and finally fell victims to their unhealthy surroundings and to the climate.

Of the total increase since 1881, namely, 3,380, the town of Castries contributes 2,133, or 63 per cent.; and, adding in the towns of Dennery and Vieux Fort, the proportion is raised to 2,723, or nearly 81 per cent. contributed by these three towns to the total of the number gained during the decade, leaving the trifling increment of 650, or an average of 65 yearly, as that furnished by the rural districts. This cannot, I think, be regarded as a healthy and satisfactory state of things. It is, however, only an accentuated instance of the unhealthy tendency which obtains generally in other lands of crowding into towns at the cost of the country in the way of diminished agricultural production, and at the loss to the individual of desirable physical and moral qualities.

The following table exhibits in a general way the movements of the population for the decennial period, 1881–91:—

Year.	Number of Population.			Births per cent.	Deaths per cent.	Density of population per square mile.	Married.	Unmarried.	Widowed.
	Males.	Females.	Total.						
April 1881 -	18,973	19,578	38,551	4·30	2·55	165	6,935	30,469	1,147
April 1891 -	20,461	21,759	42,220	3·60	2·41	181	7,956	32,599	1,665

The relative proportion of the sexes is shown as 100 males to every 106·34 females. The census report gives the following as the numbers and centesimal proportions of the four racial

categories into which, for census purposes, the population has been divided.

	Number.	Per-centage.
Black - - - -	28,766	68·13
Mixed - - - -	9,978	23·63
White - - - -	950	2·25
Asiatic - - - -	2,526	5·99
Total -	42,220	100·00

The centesimal proportions of the married, unmarried and widowed appear as,—married 18·84, unmarried 77·22, widowed 3·94.

The proportion of the different religious denominations, expressed centesimally, is shown in the census report as follows:—

Roman Catholic - - - -	85·79
Protestant - - - - -	9·23
Mohammedan - - - - -	·47
Hindû - - - - -	4·38
Undetermined remainder - - -	·13

The 2,523 East Indian coolies in the Colony comprise 1,849 Hindûs, 199 Mohammedans, and 475 Christians.

Immigration.

The total number of East Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony during 1891 was 554. They were brought from Calcutta in the s.s. Roumania, and arrived at St. Lucia on the 31st of March. This batch of immigrants came by way of the Red Sea, Suez Canal, and Mediterranean, the Roumania being the first ship that brought immigrants for the West Indies by that route.

Three births and five deaths occurred during that voyage, and a birth and a death took place in the harbour of Castries before the immigrants had left the ship.

The 554 immigrants landed were classified in accordance with the Ordinance as follows:—309 male and 126 female adults, 7 minors, and 105 infants. According to the Immigration Ordinance an adult means an immigrant at or above the age of 15 years; a minor, an immigrant under the age of 15 years, and above the age of ten years; and an infant, an immigrant under the age of ten years.

The Protector of Immigrants reports that in some respects the immigrants were landed in a satisfactory condition, but that an unusually large number of them was sent direct from the ship to hospital, and that many of the smaller children were extremely emaciated.

The vital statistics of the immigrants brought by the Roumania, for the nine months April to December, appear as follows:—

	Adults.		Minors.		Infants.	Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Number landed from S.S. Roumania.	309	126	7	7	105	554
Births - - - -	—	—	—	—	12	12
					117	566
Deaths - - -	1	2	—	—	19	22
Remain -	308	124	7	7	98	544

The decrease of ten souls, shown above, was attributable to the excessive infant mortality, the deaths amongst infants corresponding to an annual death-rate of 216·5 per 1,000. On the other hand, the mortality amongst the adults and minors was slight, corresponding to an annual death-rate of 8·9 per 1,000. The Protector of Immigrants, in his report, states that the large number of children landed from the Roumania in a miserable and emaciated condition, furnishes the explanation as to the large number of deaths which occurred.

Although the immigrants who were brought to the Colony in 1881, had fulfilled their ten years' engagement, under which they were entitled to a free passage back to India in 1891, none of them returned during the year in consequence of a failure on the part of the Government to obtain the means of transport, no accommodation being available in any of the ships conveying coolies back to India from any of the other West India Colonies.

At the date of taking the Census (5th April) there were 2,523 East Indian immigrants in the Colony.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that the East Indian immigrants are large depositors in the Savings Bank; that many of them have acquired property in the form of stock, such as horses, cattle, sheep, &c.; and that some of the leading men have begun to purchase Crown lands in the neighbourhood of Castries. Another gratifying feature which is worthy of note, is the existence in the Colony of five schools (four of which were on the list of Government aided schools in 1891), organised and partly

ST. LUCIA. 1891.

maintained by the Canadian Mission, and specially devoted to the training and teaching of Indian children.

A comprehensive Immigration Ordinance was passed in the early part of the year repealing the Immigration Ordinance 1880, defining the conditions under which immigrants are to be introduced into the Colony and indentured to employers, making provision for the protection, medical supervision and treatment, and general well-being of the immigrants while in the Colony and finally for their repatriation at the end of their period of contract.

Education.

With the exception of two schools, the St. Mary's College and the St. Joseph's Convent, both in Castries, all those in St. Lucia are primary schools. Of these 24 are assisted and 4 are Government schools, the former consisting of 16 Roman Catholic, 1 Anglican, 1 Wesleyan school, 4 schools for East Indian children, and 2 undenominational schools. Four schools, 3 Roman Catholic and one Government, have infant schools attached to them. The Government schools are undenominational, but in certain specified hours religious instruction can be given to the scholars by their spiritual pastors.

Although education is in a backward state in St. Lucia, it is gratifying to learn that improvement is taking place, and to know that the improvement will become accelerated as the children become more familiar with the language in which they are taught, and in proportion to the improvement in the methods of instruction.

The schools which for many years past had been maintained in the Colony by the Lady Mico Charity Trust were withdrawn in the early part of the year, and of the seven schools so maintained five were taken over by the Government, the school premises having been purchased by the Colony for a sum of 1,203*l.* Two of these schools were subsequently disposed of to the Roman Catholic authorities, and the remaining three continue as Government schools.

From the subjoined table, in which I have shown certain percentages and given other particulars, some idea may be obtained of the state of primary education in the Colony :—

Number of primary schools in the Colony -	28
Total population of St. Lucia - -	42,220
Number of population between the age of 5 and 15 years (which may be taken as the school age) - - - -	11,405
Total number on school rolls - - -	3,149
Average attendance - - - -	1,698
Number presented for examination - -	1,160
Number passed in two subjects - - -	948
Centesimal proportion of "school-age" children (5 to 15 years) to total population - -	27

Percentage on rolls of number of "school-age" children	27·6
Centesimal proportion of attendance to number of "school-age" children	14·8
Percentage of attendance of number on rolls	53·9
Percentage of attendance presented for examination	68·3
Percentage of attendance passed in two subjects	55·8
Percentage of those presented which passed in two subjects	81·7
Centesimal proportion of numbers passed in two subjects to number of "school-age" children	8·3

As a rule, the children hear English spoken only while they are in school, the language of their homes being patois, and of their churches and spiritual pastors French. It can, therefore, be easily imagined how serious are the difficulties with which educational efforts have to contend in this Colony.

The amount contributed by the Government during the year in aid of primary education was 2,075*l.*, which corresponds to a sum of 13*s.* 2*d.* per head per annum of the number of scholars on the rolls. In aid of secondary education, a sum of 200*l.*, was contributed to the funds of St. Mary's College, Castries.

Vital Statistics.

There were 1,929 births registered during the year, 158 of the number being still-births; 735 of the births were legitimate and 1,194 illegitimate, the former representing 38·10 per cent. and the latter 61·90 per cent. of the total births for the year. The birth-rate (still-births included) was 4·05 per cent. of the population. The still-births were 8·19, and the live births 91·81 per cent. of the total births.

The foregoing figures compare as in the following table with those for the year 1890:—

Year.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Total Births.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Percentage of legitimate Births.	Percentage of illegitimate.	Birth rate per cent. of population.
1890 - -	1,574	130	1,704	594	1,110	34·86	65·14	3·65
1891 - -	1,771	155	1,929	735	1,194	38·10	61·90	4.05

ST. LUCIA, 1891.

From this table it will be seen that, comparing the two years 1890 and 1891, the percentage of legitimate births increased from 34·86 to 38·10, and the percentage of illegitimate births consequently decreased from 65·14 to 61·90. Although the proportion of illegitimate to legitimate births is still lamentably high, yet it is satisfactory to be able to record an appreciable decrease in it, and to recognise this decrease as a hopeful evidence of an improving social and moral condition of the people.

The deaths during the year, including still-births, numbered 1,195, or, exclusive of still-births, 1,037. The death-rate (exclusive of still-births) was 2·45 per cent. of the population as against 2·35 in 1890. Of the total mortality 36 per cent. was represented by the deaths of children under one year of age. This excessive infant mortality is attributable to several causes, some of which are preventible, the chief of these latter being, in the opinion of the Registrar-General, intentional neglect before or after birth, incompetence of self-styled midwives, and protracted daily absence of mothers of the labouring and domestic class. As a primary cause, however, I think there can be little doubt that illegitimacy is the main source of the evil, and that, so long as it exists to such a deplorably large extent, infant mortality will continue excessive to an approximately corresponding degree.

It is worthy of note that there were only three deaths from snake bites during the year. The mortality from this cause for the previous 22 years gives an average of 10 deaths per annum.

The birth-rate during 1891 was above, and the death-rate below, the average of previous years; and the gain to the population arising out of the excess of births over deaths—the natural increase—was 734.

The number of marriages celebrated during the year was 396. It is satisfactory to observe that the resort to the marriage ceremony is on the increase, the marriages during 1891 exceeding those of 1890 by 112, and those of 1889 by 128.

Imports.

The total value of the imports for the year was 222,178*l.*, against 206,693*l.* in 1890, showing an increase of 15,485*l.* for the year under review. Of the total imports, 138,019*l.* worth came from the United Kingdom, 24,867*l.* from British Colonies, and 59,292 from foreign countries, the United States of America contributing 39,436*l.* of the last-named amount.

The following statement enumerates the articles of imports, which show an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value in 1891, as compared with the preceding year:—

Articles.	Increase.	Articles, &c.	Decrease.
	£		£
Ale and porter - -	774	Animals, living :	
		Oxen - - - -	2,112
Animals, living :		Cottons, linens, and woollens -	4,969
Cattle - - -	2,301	Fish, salted and dried -	802
Butter - - - -	246	Jewellery - - -	260
Coals - - - -	1,343	Machinery and other agricultural implements - -	3,433
Confectionery - - -	241	Nails - - - -	217
Flour - - - -	2,900	Salt - - - -	367
Oats and bran - - -	488	Specie - - - -	1,400
Fruits and vegetables - -	294	Wines - - - -	389
Haberdashery - - -	3,163	Wood, white pine - -	420
Iron, galvanised - -	730		
Manure - - - -	1,998		
Oil—lard, olive, &c. - -	219		
Paints and varnish - -	228		
Preserves - - -	574		
Rice - - - -	1,991		
Railway materials - -	1,062		
Silks and satins - -	352		
Shingles - - - -	244		
Soap - - - -	605		
Gin - - - -	200		
Twine - - - -	231		
Wood—pitch pine - -	1,054		

Exports.

The value of the exports during 1891 was 181,503 against 197,452 in 1890, showing a decrease in 1891 amounting to 15,949*l.*

In the following statement is shown the articles of export, in which an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value occurred in 1891 as compared with 1890, and the amount of such increase or decrease.

Articles.	Amount of increase in 1891 compared with 1890.	Articles.	Amount of increase in 1891 compared with 1890.
	£		£
Cocoa - - -	1,794	Sugar :	
Farine manioc - -	1,445	Muscovado - -	2,214
Mangoes - - -	1,230	Usine - - -	2,241
		Molasses - -	3,262
		Vegetables and provisions (fresh) - -	333
		Wood, timber and logwood	4,393
		Fuel, pimento sticks and other woods - -	478

It will be seen from the above table that three articles—cocoa, farine manioc, and mangoes—show between them an increase of 4,469*l.* Cocoa exhibits an increase of 1,794*l.* over the export of 1890, and taking the average export of this article for the five

ST. LUCIA. 1891

years 1886–90, I find that the increase in 1891 compared with that average amounts to 6,730*l.*

Farine mani c (cassava flour) shows an increase of 1,445*l.* over the export for 1890, and an increase of 1,043*l.* over the average for the three years 1888–90. There does not appear to have been any export of this article in 1886 or 1887. In 1888 and 1889 the export of farine manioc was almost entirely to Colon, but in the years 1890 and 1891 the shipments were, with a very trifling exception, to the French West Indies, chiefly to Martinique.

Mangoes to the value of 2,004*l.* were shipped (and all to Barbados) during the year, representing an increase of 1,230*l.* over the value of the previous year's export, and of 1,616*l.* over that of 1889, which latter is the first year in which this article is shown as an export separately from other fruit and fresh vegetables. The export of mangoes appears to be rapidly enlarging, but I regret to say that, from an industrial point of view, this expansion is not as satisfactory as if it occurred in the case of fruits that were, to a greater degree than mangoes, the harvest and reward of foresight and intelligence, and of regular habits of industry and patient toil.

The articles which show a falling off of 200*l.* or over in the value of the quantity exported in 1891 compared with the preceding year are sugar, molasses, fresh vegetables and provisions, and woods and timbers, the decrease amounting to a total of 12,921*l.*

The following is a comparative statement of the value of the exports in 1891, of the three principal articles of export, and the average value of the exports of those articles for the preceding ten years 1881–90.

Articles.	Value.		Increase in 1891 over average for 10 preceding years.	Decrease in 1891 below average for 10 preceding years.
	1891.	Average for 10 years 1881–90.		
Sugar :	£	£	£	£
Usine - - -	60,870	44,306	16,564	—
Muscovado - -	18,253	64,830	—	46,577
Molasses - -	5,334	7,046	—	1,712
Cocoa - - -	28,658	17,226	11,432	—
	113,115	133,408	27,996	48,289

From the above statement it will be perceived that in the year 1891, as compared with the average for the preceding 10 years, there was an increase in the value of the exports of Usine sugar and cocoa amounting to 27,996*l.*, and a decrease in that of the exports of muscovado sugar and molasses amounting to 48,289*l.*, leaving a difference in the way of decrease in 1891 of 20,293*l.*

The value of the imports in 1891 exceeded that of the exports by 40,675*l.* Excluding the value of coal imported and exported, the excess amounted to 72,044*l.*

Shipping.

Six hundred and fifty-one vessels entered the Port of Castries during the year, 363 of this number being steam, and 288 sailing, vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 430,787 tons.

Of the steam vessels 167 were with cargo, and 196 in ballast; 275 of the sailing vessels were with cargo, and 13 were in ballast

Of the steam vessels 330 were British, 26 French, 3 Belgian, 3 Norwegian and 1 was American. Of the sailing vessels 245 were British, 15 French, 15 Dutch, 10 American, 2 Venezuelan, and 1 was Norwegian.

The steam vessels which entered in 1891 fell short of the number for 1890 by 22, whereas, the sailing vessels exceeded those for 1890 by 50. The tonnage for 1891 was 7,589 tons less than that for the previous year. Of the 363 steam vessels which entered during the year 135 were steamers which called only for the purpose of taking in bunker coal.

The following table exhibits a statement of the number of vessels and of the amount of tonnage entered and cleared during 1891, and the averages for the previous five years :—

—	1891.		Average for five years 1886-90.		Increase in 1891 over average for five preceding years.		Decrease in 1891 compared with average for five preceding years.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	To nage.
ENTERED.								
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - -	167	186,212	140	147,000	27	39,212	—	—
In ballast - - -	196	230,360	150	160,778	46	69,582	—	—
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - -	275	12,474	206	11,629	69	845	—	—
In ballast - - -	13	1,741	31	2,734	—	—	18	993
Total - -	651	430,787	527	322,141	142	109,639	18	993
CLEARED.								
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - -	123	135,934	117	124,159	6	11,775	—	—
In ballast - -	241	283,898	171	183,329	70	100,569	—	—
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - - -	220	9,087	175	8,033	45	1 054	—	—
In ballast - - -	76	4,931	63	6,217	13	—	—	1,286
Total - -	660	433,850	526	321,738	134	113,378	—	1,286

Post Office.

During the year, 43,614 letters and post-cards and 4,582 articles were despatched to the United Kingdom and foreign

countries, and 42,771 letters and postcards and 75,465 articles were received. As compared with 1890 the letters and postcards despatched show an increase of 5,084, but there was a falling off of 61 in the number of articles despatched. The letters and postcards received exceeded those for the previous year by 4,512 and the articles by 27,882. The Inland Postal transactions also exhibit an appreciable increase; and, generally, the business of the Post Office Department is rapidly expanding.

Money orders to the amount of 2,112*l.* were issued, and to the amount of 728*l.* were paid during the year.

The following were the receipts from the sale of stamps, &c. :—

	£
Stamps sold - - - - -	1,807
Unpaid letters delivered - - -	28
Commission on money orders - - -	64
Rent of letter boxes - - - -	28
	£1,927

Crown Lands.

No grants of Crown Lands were made during 1891. About 50 grants, however, were in course of preparation for issue at the close of the year, the first instalment of the purchase money having been paid by the applicants, and the surveys having been completed.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The Royal Gaol, Castries, is a general and also a military prison. The sanitary state of the gaol during the year was satisfactory. The number of persons committed to prison in 1891 was 547, including 12 military prisoners. Of the number committed 413 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment, seven for debt, and 127 for safe custody till trial or for want of security.

The daily average number in prison was 48·50. The number of admissions to hospital was 21, and the daily average on the sick list 2·26. There were three deaths during the year.

Subjoined is a comparative tabular statement exhibiting the figures for the years 1890 and 1891 respectively :—

—	Total number committed.	For debt.	For safe custody, &c.	For purposes of penal imprisonment.	No. of recommittals.			Daily average number in prison.	No. of admissions into hospital.	Daily average on sick list.	No. of deaths.
					Once	Twice.	Thrice or oftener.				
1890 - - -	460	19	119	341	49	11	37	50·77	10	1·61	*2
1891 - - -	547	7	127	413	56	40	57	48·50	21	2·26	3

* One executed.

It will be seen from the foregoing comparative table that the number of commitments and of re-convictions in 1891 were considerably in excess of those of 1890.

Corporal punishment was awarded four times in 1891, total number of lashes 43. In 1890 corporal punishment was ordered seven times, total number of lashes 102. In 1889 this form of punishment was awarded seven times, the total number of lashes amounting to 164.

In the month of October the gaol was appointed to be a military prison for the detention of European military prisoners undergoing short sentences.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1891 was 1,599, as against 1,237 in the previous year. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1891 largely exceeded the number for 1890, amounting to 2,035 against 1,426.

The number of persons summarily convicted was 1,167, and the number committed for trial in the Supreme Courts, 20. Of the latter number 16 were indicted, and four were not prosecuted. Of the 16 cases of indictment, a *nolle prosequi* was entered in two cases, 11 of the prisoners were convicted, and 3 were acquitted.

The following is a comparative table showing the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, &c., in 1891, and the average for the five previous years, 1886–90:—

—	1891.	Average of five previous Years, 1886–90.	Increase.	Decrease.
Number of offences reported to police - - -	1,599	1,286	313	—
Number of persons apprehended by police or summoned before the magistrate - -	2,035	1,587	448	—
Number of summary convictions	1,167	743	424	—
Number of persons committed for trial in Inferior Courts -	20	32	—	12
Number of convictions in Inferior Courts - -	11	20	—	9
Number of persons acquitted: In Inferior Courts - -	848	813	35	—
Number of persons acquitted: In Superior Courts - -	3	11	—	8
Percentage of convictions: In Inferior Courts - -	58	48	10	—
In Superior Courts - -	79	65	14	—

Hospitals.

The sanitary condition of the hospitals was very satisfactory, and no diseases of an epidemic nature appeared in the Colony during the year.

There were 2,932 patients admitted into the hospitals (exclusive of the Yaws Hospital) during the year, making, with those remaining in hospital from the previous year, 3,046 patients treated. Of these 2,643 were discharged cured, 77 were discharged relieved, and 134 died.

Of the 3,046 patients treated in hospital during the year no less than 1,017—one-third of the total number—were cases of malarial fever, the East Indian coolies and the natives appearing to be equally susceptible of contracting this form of fever. The type of the disease was generally mild, and the mortality was slight, being only 1·17 per cent. of the number treated; whereas, the death-rate for the total number of patients treated in hospital was 4·4 per cent.

Yaws Hospital.—There were 46 patients admitted into the Yaws Hospital during the year, which, with 41 patients remaining in hospital from 1890, made a total of 87 cases treated. Of this number 57 were discharged cured, and 3 died; the death-rate being 3·45 per cent.

Dispensaries.—The number of patients who received medical aid at the dispensaries was 8,305, the principal diseases treated having been malarial fevers and diseases of the digestive system.

Poor Asylum.—There were 92 destitute persons admitted into the Poor Asylum, Castries, during the year, the greater number of whom were suffering from chronic or incurable diseases, 36 inmates remained over from the year 1890, making with those admitted a total of 128 destitute persons who found food, clothing, shelter, and medical aid in the asylum during 1891. Of this number 52 were discharged relieved and 38 died, 13 of the deaths being from senile decay.

Lunatic Asylum.—This asylum is only a temporary one, in which lunatics are detained until such time as they can be transferred to the lunatic asylum at Grenada. The building is not well suited for the purpose to which it has been put, nor is its situation a very desirable one, and it is hoped that as soon as funds are available for the purpose a new and properly constructed and situated asylum will be built. Eight lunatics were admitted into the asylum during the year; of these, 1 was discharged as "relieved," 5 were transferred to the asylum at Grenada, and 1 died.

The total number of cases treated during the year in the hospitals and asylums and at the dispensaries was 11,576—somewhat over one-quarter of the number of the population of the Colony—and the total gross cost (including salaries of medical officers, &c.) of the aid and relief thus given amounted to 5,985*l.*, which gives an average of about 10*s.* 4*d.* per case, or, deducting

payments made by the sugar factories in respect of indentured coolies treated in hospital, and payments for seamen, &c., a net average cost of 9*s.* 3*d.* per case treated in the medical institutions of the Colony, or about 2*s.* 6*d.* per head of the population.

Botanical Station.

Gradual progress and improvements have been made at the Botanical Station during the year. Some cross drains were completed; the laying out a nursery was commenced; and the level part of the gardens was raised by the addition of extra soil. The growth and condition of the various trees and shrubs have been reported as satisfactory; and the unsightly appearance of parts of the garden previously left in fallow has been removed by the planting of these unoccupied spaces with banana trees and other plants.

In the early part of the year a plot of adjoining land, measuring about an acre and a quarter, was acquired by the Government for an addition to the garden, and this plot is being gradually reclaimed from its original state of swamp, and will soon be in a condition to permit of its being utilized for planting purposes.

The proceeds of the sale of plants, seedlings, flowers, &c., during the year amounted to 54*l.*

Meteorology.

The mean temperature in the shade, as shown by the observations taken at the Morne was 78·2°. The average maximum temperature for the year was 85·3°, and the average minimum temperature 71·1°.

The highest monthly maximum temperature was in August (88·2°), and the lowest monthly minimum in February (67.0).

The total rainfall for the year amounted to 75·65 inches, which was 12·46 inches less than the rainfall of 1890.

The heaviest monthly rainfall (10·69 inches) occurred in July, and the lowest (1·27 inches) in March.

General Remarks.

The early part of the year under review was exceptionally dry, the rains not having set in until an unusually late period.

The health of the Colony was good, and no disease of an epidemic nature appeared in the island during the year.

The crops suffered a good deal in the early part of the season from the drought, but recovered themselves during the latter rains.

The year was not marked by any appreciable advance in prosperity; but it is a satisfactory circumstance to note, and one of much promise, that increased atention was paid to the cultivation of the cocoa tree, and that the planting of this useful and generously repaying tree is extending.

ST. LUCIA. 1891.

A severe earthquake shock was experienced on the 4th of July, and on the 18th of August the island felt, to a slight degree, the influence of the disastrous hurricane that swept over and devastated a large portion of the neighbouring island of Martinique. Fortunately beyond doing some damage to the recently reclaimed land adjoining the harbour, the high wind which blew for some hours during the height of the hurricane wrought the Colony no appreciable harm. St. Lucia lay well outside the axis of the storm, and thus escaped a visitation that would have been an untold calamity to the Colony had it fallen to the fate of the island to be the victim of it.

In conclusion, I may mention that the Castries Harbour Improvement Works were completed in the month of June, and that the dredger "Dolphin," which had rendered such excellent service in deepening the harbour, and other plant and stores, were transferred at a valuation from the Harbour Works Department to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY,
Administrator.

Government House, St. Lucia,
12th August 1892.

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No. 86.

ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 42.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
September 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857-36.].

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonia Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
50	Falkland Islands	1891
51	Leeward Islands	"
52	Grenada	"
53	St. Lucia	"
54	Labuan	"
55	British Guiana	"
56	Zululand	
57	Mauritius	"
58	Lagos	"
59	Straits Settlements	"
60	Ceylon	"
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	"
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	"
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	"
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	"
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	"
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	"
76	Bahamas	"
77	Leeward Islands	"
78	Trinidad and Tobago	"
79	Malta	"
80	Gambia	"
81	Straits Settlements	1892
82	Grenada	"
83	Barbados	"
84	St. Vincent	
85	Hong Kong	

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany

No. 86.

ST. LUCIA.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 53.]

Administrator GOULDSBURY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

St. Lucia,
July 19, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the Blue Book of St. Lucia for the year 1892.

2. I hope to be able to forward manuscript copies of the Blue Book to your Lordship by next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1892,

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

During the year five Ordinances were passed altering or affecting the customs and excise duties.

In the early part of the year an Ordinance (No. 5) was passed giving effect to the provisions of the reciprocity clause of the McKinley Tariff Act, under which a large number of articles which theretofore had been subject to duty were admitted duty free and the duty on a considerable number of other articles of import was reduced in some cases by 25 per cent., and in others by 50 per cent., of the former duties chargeable on them.

The loss of revenue resulting from the exemptions and reductions effected by this Ordinance was estimated by the United States authorities at 2,500*l.* and by this Government at a little over 3,000*l.* per annnm.

The actual loss, however, for the eleven months of 1892 during which the Ordinance was in operation was 3,823*l.* or at the rate o 4,171*l.* per annum.

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

In order to compensate for the loss of revenue consequent on the McKinley Tariff Agreement, the duty on rum and spirits (except brandy) was increased. The excise duty on rum was raised, by Ordinance No. 4, from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* per proof gallon, and, by Ordinance No. 5, the customs duty on gin, rum, whiskey, and other spirits (except brandy, the duty on which was already 8*s.*) was raised from 6*s.* 8*d.* to 8*s.* per proof gallon.

The amount realised by the increased excise duty on rum and customs duty on rum and other spirits was, for the eleven months during which the Ordinances were in operation, 2,564*l.*, or at the rate of 2,797*l.* per annum.

The amount estimated to be obtained by the increase in the excise and customs duty on rum and other spirits was not realized in consequence of the general shrinkage in trade, and the falling off in the consumption of these articles by the community owing to the scarcity of money arising from the partial failure of the cocoa crop, the low price of produce generally, and the diminution in the expenditure on public works by the Imperial and Colonial Governments.

By Ordinance No. 10 the import duty on Usine and Muscovado sugar was reduced from a penny to a halfpenny per pound, with the object of lowering the price of sugar to the consumer by introducing the element of competition between the outside markets and the sugar factories of the island, which competition had hitherto been precluded by the high import duty on sugar, and the absence of which had resulted in the retail price of sugar being higher in St. Lucia than even in England and in other countries which do not produce sugar.

By Ordinance No. 17 the holder of any licence under the Liquor License Ordinance was prohibited from selling any spirits of less strength than 25 per cent. under proof; and by Ordinance No. 18, the *ad valorem* duty on articles subject to it was increased from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent., this latter Ordinance having been passed in consequence of the serious falling off in the revenue which had taken place during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year 1892 amounted to 48,297*l.* and 54,934*l.* respectively, the expenditure thus exceeding the revenue by 6,637*l.*

The estimated revenue and expenditure were respectively 52,420*l.* and 53,846.

The actual revenue fell short of the estimated revenue by 4,123*l.*, and the actual expenditure exceeded the estimated expenditure by 1,088*l.*

The revenue for 1892 fell short of that for the previous year by 1,029*l.*, and the expenditure exceeded that for 1891 by 1,028*l.*

In the following table are shown the principal heads of revenue, under which there was a considerable increase or decrease in 1892 compared with the preceding year :—

Heads of Revenue.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
1. Customs - - - - - -	—	4,261
2. Port, Harbour, and Wharf Dues - - -	—	304
3. Licences, Excise, &c. - - - -	867	—
4. Fees of Court, office, &c. - - -	300	—
5. Miscellaneous - - - - -	—	539
6. Materials and Stores (sale of) - -	276	—
7. Land Sales (transferred from special fund to credit of General Revenue) - - -	488	—

The subjoined table shows the principal heads of expenditure under which there was a considerable increase or decrease in 1892, compared with 1891 :—

Heads of Expenditure	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
1. Treasury and Customs - - - -	—	204
2. Audit Department - - - - -	—	423
3. Port and Marine - - - - -	576	—
4. Education - - - - - -	353	—
5. Miscellaneous—Military Duty allowance, &c. -	1,795	—
6. Post Office - - - - - -	444	—
7. Public Works Department - - - -	—	948
8. Materials and Stores - - - -	—	2,125
9. Public Works Recurrent - - - -	—	856
10.* Crown Lands Department - - -	772	—

* New head of expenditure formerly shown under head "Colonial Surveyor."

The decrease in the revenue for 1892, compared with the previous year, was the result of several causes, the principal being the operation of the McKinley Tariff Agreement, the large

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

reductions in expenditure on Public Works by both the Imperial and Colonial Governments, the partial failure of the cocoa crop, the low price obtained for produce, and the general declension in trade.

The increase in the expenditure for 1892 as compared with the preceding year, viz., 1,028*l.*, was chiefly due to the purchase of new buoys and moorings for Castries Harbour, the erection of leading mark lights, the increased military duty allowance, the increased subsidy to the coasting steamers, and the increased contribution to the Imperial postal subsidy.

The revenue and expenditure for the year 1892 compare as follows with the revenue and expenditure for 1891, and with the average of the revenue and expenditure for the preceding five years 1886–90 :—

	1892.	1891.	Average for five years 1886–90.
	£	£	£
Revenue - - - -	48,297	49,326	43,956
Expenditure - - - -	54,934	53,906	44,481

Assets and Liabilities.

The subjoined statement shows the assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December 1892:—

Assets.		Liabilities.	
	£		£
Cash - - - -	130	Savings Bank Deposit Account -	7,704
Colonial Bank Current Account -	3,071	Castries Town Fund - -	439
„ Deposit Account -	3,500	Towns and Villages Fund - -	1,262
Investments on account of Savings Bank - - - - -	5,000	Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund - - - -	1,776
Investments on account of Police and Revenue Officers' Reward Fund - - - - -	1,504	Imperial Post Office Reward Fund -	23
Miscellaneous Advances -	12,253	Post Office Money Order Account -	296
London and Westminster Bank -	76	Grenada Intercolonial Account -	1,125
Bank of England - - -	3	St. Vincent Intercolonial Account -	6
		Immigration Fund - - -	3,452
		Crown Agents' Current Account -	10,891
	£25,537	Sinking Fund - - - -	9
Stores, Surplus Account -	1,849	Balance Surplus Assets - -	333
	£27,386		£27,386

Public Debt.

The public debt of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to 147,850*l.*, and was made up as shown below :—

Debts.	Amount due at end of year 1892.	Amount of original Debt.	Source from which interest and Sinking Fund are paid.
	£	£	
1. Central Sugar Factory Loans -	30,800	40,000	General Revenue.
2. Immigration Loans - -	21,600	23,000	Immigration Fund.
3. Harbour of Castries Improvement Loans - - -	84,000	84,000	General Revenue.
4. Public Works Loans -	11,450	11,450	Do.
	£147,350	£158,450	

The sum of 1,000*l.*, was paid off during the year by the redemption of drawn debentures. The public debt at the end of the year was equal to a little over three times the amount of the revenue for the year, and represented an indebtedness equal to 3*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* per head of the population.

Savings Bank.

The deposits in the Savings Bank during the year 1892 amounted to 6,955*l.*, the number of depositors at the end of the year, being 905, thus giving an average of 7*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* per depositor. The withdrawals amounted to 9,212*l.*

The large excess of the withdrawals over the deposits was caused by the withdrawal and transfer to India of the amounts deposited by the Indian immigrants who were repatriated towards the latter end of the year.

The total amount to the credit of depositors at the close of the year was 7,704*l.*

Municipalities and other Public Bodies.

The town of Castries is governed by an elective Town Board consisting of eight members. All the other towns and villages are under the supervision and management of Town Wardens, acting under the directions and control of the Governor in Council.

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

The total revenue of the towns and villages for the year 1892 amounted to 3,820*l.*, and the expenditure to 5,265*l.*

The revenue is derived principally from house tax, the rates being levied upon the assessed annual rental, or value for rental, of the property.

The rate varies from 5 per cent. in some of the villages to 8 per cent. in others and in the towns of Castries, Soufriére, and Vieux-Fort.

Military.

The only expenditure of the Colony in respect of the troops was 1,974*l.*, paid as an allowance in lieu of duty-free goods.

The Imperial expenditure during the year for military purposes amounted to 34,613*l.*

Public Works.

The Public Works executed during the year consisted as usual of works of new construction and of works of maintenance and repair.

The following were the principal works of new construction carried out during the year:—

The construction of a road leading from the Morne Road to site of the proposed new Government House; the erection of leading marks and lights to indicate the line of safe entrance into the harbour; the addition of timber fenders to the North Wharf; the construction of a new jetty at Soufriére; and the erection of village latrines.

Under the head of maintenance and repairs, the following may be enumerated as the principal works executed:—

The upkeep and repair of roads and bridges; general repair of Government buildings, that of the Victoria Hospital being the most extensive; and the repair of the jetties at Vieux Fort, Laborie and Choiseul.

The following works, which partook partly of the character of new construction and partly of that of repair, were also executed during the year, viz.:—The construction of a new face to the Western Wharf by the erection of a new line of piling in the front of the old facing, which was weak and defective, and the deepening of the water alongside; the extension of the jetties at Vieux Fort and Choiseul; and the laying down of new moorings in Castries Harbour.

Of all the works executed during the year the refacing of the Western Wharf was the most extensive and important, involving an outlay of 4,889*l.*, ensuring the stability of the wharf for years, and, by permitting of the deepening of the water alongside,

enabling vessels up to 18 feet of draught to utilize this wharf by loading and discharging cargo at it.

The amount spent on Public Works during the year was 16,266*l.*, of which expenditure 7,370*l.* was paid out of General Revenue and the balance of 8,896*l.* out of Public Works Loans.

Legislation.

Eighteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, and these, together with an Ordinance (Coroners' Ordinance, 1891) passed on the 29th December 1891, were promulgated in the Colony during the year under review.

The titles of these Ordinances are as follows:—

(1.) An Ordinance to make provisions for deterring prisoners from persistently malingering, and to promote prison discipline.

(2.) An Ordinance to repeal the Castries Loan Ordinance, 1885.

(3.) An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to Coroners and Fire Inquiries.

(4.) An Ordinance to amend the Tax Ordinance, 1875.

(5.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881.

(6.) An Ordinance to amend the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1871.

(7.) An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886.

(8.) An Ordinance to amend the Spirits Ordinance, 1886.

(9.) An Ordinance to amend the Harbour Master Ordinance, 1888.

(10.) An Ordinance to amend the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881.

(11.) An Ordinance to amend the Army (Colonial Allowance) Ordinance, 1888.

(12.) An Ordinance to provide for the Enrolment of Coast Defence Volunteers.

(13.) An Ordinance to legalise the expenditure of certain sums of money paid from the General Revenue for the service of the year 1891, in addition to the sums already sanctioned under the Appropriation Ordinance, 1891.

(14.) An Ordinance to amend the Castries Ordinance, 1888.

(15.) An Ordinance to naturalise Gottfried August Ludwig Graf as a British subject.

(16.) An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Saint Lucia for the year 1893.

(17.) An Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licence Ordinance, 1886.

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

(18.) An Ordinance to repeal the Customs Tariff Amendment Ordinance, 1889, and to make other provisions in place thereof.

(19.) An Ordinance to declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorised to be raised by the Government of Saint Lucia, and to provide for the creation of Saint Lucia Inscribed Stock.

Of the Ordinances promulgated during the year the most important were :—The Coroners' Ordinance, 1891, which amends and consolidates the law relating to Coroners and to Fire Inquiries ; the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1881, Amendment Ordinance, 1892, which was passed to give effect to the provisions of the reciprocity clause in the McKinley Tariff Act ; and the General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, 1892, which provides for the creation of St. Lucia Inscribed Stock, and for the conversion into Inscribed Stock to be issued under the provisions of this Ordinance of all or any of the St. Lucia Loans, whether in the form of Stock or Debentures.

Civil Establishments.

His Excellency Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson was absent on leave from the Windward Islands from the 9th September to the 8th November, during which period I administered the General Government.

Mr. P. J. K. Ferguson, Attorney-General, administered the Government of St. Lucia during my absence at Grenada from the 9th to the 30th September, to which Colony I had proceeded to be sworn in an Administrator-in-Chief of the Windward Islands.

Mr. Low, who had been acting as Treasurer in Grenada, resumed his duties as Stipendiary Magistrate of the First District on the 19th of August. He left this Colony on the 6th of December to assume his duties as Commissioner of Tobago, to which post he had been appointed.

Mr. Dix, Magistrate of the Second District, was appointed to act as Magistrate of the First District consequent on Mr. Low's departure for Tobago ; and Mr. Elliot, the Magistrate of the Third District, performed the duties of Magistrate of the Second District in conjunction with his own, on Mr. Dix being removed to the First District.

Captain Hughes, the Chief of Police, left the Colony on leave on the 20th of May, and during his absence Mr. Laborde Chief of Police at St. Vincent, performed his duties. Captain Hughes was subsequently appointed to the command of the police at the Gambia, and Mr. Granville Ponsonby was appointed Chief of Police and Inspector of Prisons.

Mr. Ponsonby arrived in the Colony on the 20th of December, and took over the charge of the Police and Prisons Departments

from Mr. Laborde. Mr. Bartlett, Keeper of the Royal Gaol, resigned his appointment in October, and Mr. Lash, Superintendent of Prisons, Grenada, performed the duties of keeper until the arrival in November of Mr. Heels, who had been appointed Keeper of the Gaol *vice* Mr. Bartlett.

Legislative Council.

Mr. Ozanne left the Colony on leave in January, and Mr. Battam was appointed to act during his absence.

Mr. Ozanne resigned his seat in March, and Mr. Battam was appointed to the vacancy.

Mr. C. Chastanet was absent for six months, during which time Mr. Graff acted.

Mr. J. Macfarlane resigned his seat in July, and Mr. W. Peter as appointed to the vacant seat.

Mr. E. DuBoulay was on leave for six months; Mr. Henry Devaux acted during his absence.

Mr. S. Barnard was appointed to the Council in October.

Mr. Messervy was appointed to act during the absence on leave of Mr. Reeve in November.

Pensions.

With the exception of the death of Mr. J. W. King, formerly Sub-Inspector of Revenue and Police, and who was the recipient of a pension of 40*l.* per annum, there was no change in the pension list during the year.

Population.

Both the birth-rate and death-rate for the year 1892 were below those for the preceding year. The gain to the population resulting from the excess of births over deaths was 602, raising the number of the population by this natural increase to 43,310 at the end of 1892.

Immigration.

The report for 1892 of the Protector of Immigrants shows that there were 522 indentured Indian coolies in the Colony at the close of the year.

The number of births and deaths during 1892 were respectively 25 and 16, and one indentured coolie was sent back to India.

The birth-rate was 4·6, and the death-rate 2·8 per cent., showing a higher birth-rate and a lower death-rate than the averages for previous years.

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

The birth and death rates among the indentured coolies compare with those for the general population as follows :—

	Per-centage.	
	Coolies.	General Population.
Birth-rate - - - -	4·6	3·76
Death-rate - - -	2·8	2·35

It will be observed from the above table that both the birth and death rate were higher among the coolies than among the general population, the death-rate being, however, only fractionally (0·45 per cent.) higher.

In August 137 time-expired immigrants, including children, were repatriated, having sailed in the ship "Jumna" for India.

It is worthy of note that these return immigrants carried away as savings the very considerable sum of 2,138*l.* One coolie had to his credit as much as 170*l.*, another had 143*l.*, and two were the possessors of above 100*l.* each.

In 1891, 627 acres of Crown lands in the neighbourhood of Castries were reserved for the purpose of forming an Indian settlement, and several grants for lots varying from five to ten acres in extent were issued during the year 1892. The land is granted on very reasonable terms, the price being only 1*l.* an acre, the payment being by instalments spread over a period of five years.

The immigrants who have taken up lots on the Reservation have begun to clear and cultivate their properties, and such have been their diligence and industry that some of them have already been able to secure good crops, the surplus of which they disposed of at remunerative prices. It is a fact of some interest and significance, that amongst these crops were to be found potatoes (English) of a most excellent quality; and also of interest to know that two full crops at least of this tuber could be grown and gathered in the twelve months. I hope to be able before long to establish the nucleus of another Indian coolie settlement in the neighbourhood of Vieux Fort at the south end of the island, and am having lands surveyed in that locality for that purpose.

Education.

All the schools in the Colony with two exceptions are primary schools. There were 33 primary schools on the list of assisted schools during the year. Of these 21 were Roman Catholic, 4 were Government, 4 were Indian Mission, 1 was Anglican, 1 was Wesleyan, and 2 were private aided schools.

During the year one Indian Mission school, that at Crown Lands, was closed, and five additional schools were placed on the list of assisted schools, three of them being Roman Catholic and two Indian Mission.

Four of the primary assisted schools are infant schools; two of them being in Castries, and two in Soufriere.

The Inspector of Schools reports that "the general condition of "the schools shows steady progress in improvement," and there is every reason to believe that the improvement will become accelerated as the children acquire and become more familiar with the English language.

The work of education in this Colony must necessarily be one of somewhat slow progress. It has, at least, one great difficulty to contend with, namely, ignorance on the part of both the parents and children of the language in which the latter are taught.

It is, however, satisfactory to know that progress is being made, and a hopeful reflection that the main factor in the retardation of advancement will be a constantly decreasing quantity until, in a generation or two, it finally disappears.

From the subjoined statement some idea may be gathered as to the state of primary education in the Colony :—

Number of primary schools in the Colony -	23
Total population of the Colony - -	43,310
Total number of children on school rolls at end of year - - - - - - -	4,156
Average attendance - - - -	2,357
Number presented for examination - -	1,644
Number passed in two subjects - - -	1,330
Centesimal proportion on rolls to total population - - - -	9·59
Percentage of attendance of number on rolls -	56·7
Percentage of attendance passed in two subjects	56·4
Percentage of those presented which passed in two subjects - - - -	80·9

Vital Statistics.

There were 1,760 births and 1,158 deaths registered during the year; the difference, viz., 602, being the natural increase of the population for the year. This increase raised the population to 43,310 at the end of 1892.

Of the 1,760 births 907 were male and 853 female.

The illegitimate births outnumbered the legitimate by 320, and constituted 59·09 per cent. of the total births. In the previous year the illegitimate births formed 61·90 per cent. of the total births

The still births numbered 156, and amounted to 9·73 per cent. of the live births, or one in every 11·28 of the total births.

The birth-rate, exclusive of still births, bore the proportion of 3·76 per cent. to the population. The percentage for 1891 was 4·05.

The foregoing figures for 1892 compare with those for the year 1891 as follows :—

Year.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Total Births.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Percentage of legitimate Births.	Percentage of illegitimate.	Birth-rate per cent. of population.
1891 - -	1,771	155	1,929	735	1,194	38·10	61·90	4·05
1892 - -	1,604	156	1,760	720	1,040	40·91	59·09	3·76

It will be seen from the above table that the total births for the year fell short of those for 1891 by 169, and that the percentage to population decreased from 4·05 to 3·76. On the other hand, it will be observed that the proportion of legitimate to illegitimate births rose from 38·10 per cent. in 1891 to 40·91 per cent. in the year under review.

The deaths during the year numbered 1,158, being 37 less than in 1891. The death-rate (exclusive of still-births) was 2·35 per cent. of the population. In the preceding year it was 2·37. The death-rate for 1892 was about the normal rate, as the average death-rate for the previous five years 1887–91 was 2·26.

The deaths of children under one year of age amounted to 35·23 per cent. of the total deaths.

In 1891 the percentage was 36. The rate of infant mortality is very high, and will continue excessive so long as the several causes which contribute to its existence remain in unabated operation. In my report for 1891, I enumerated some of these causes, naming illegitimacy as the principal one.

The number of marriages celebrated during the year was 246. This number compares very unfavourably with that for 1891, viz.: 396, and is 70 less than the average for the three years 1889-91.

Imports and Exports.

Imports.

As compared with the previous year there was a serious falling off in the imports during the year 1892, the decrease, expressed in value, amounting to 49,153*l.*

The total value of the imports in 1892 only reached the sum of 173,025*l.*, whereas in the years 1890 and 1891 the value of the imports amounted to 206,693*l.* and 222,178*l.* respectively. If, however, the comparison be extended over a larger number of years, a different result is obtained.

Taking the average of the five years 1887–91 the average yearly value only amounts to 171,481*l.*, being 1,544*l.* less than the value of the imports for the year 1892. The decrease, therefore, in the year 1892 should be regarded, at least partly, more as a reversion to a normal or average volume of imports than a retrogression of the Colony in the way of trade and commerce.

Of the total imports, amounting to 173,025*l.* in value, 103,859*l.* worth came from the United Kingdom; 30,360*l.* from British Colonies; and 38,806*l.* from foreign countries; of which last named amount the United States of America contributed 22,030*l.*

The following table enumerates the imports which show an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value in 1892, compared with the previous year and the amount of the increase or decrease:—

Articles.	Amount of increase in 1892 compared with 1891.	Articles.	Amount of decrease in 1892 compared with 1891.
	£		£
Ale, beer, porter &c. -	238	Animals: Cattle and oxen	553
Animals: Sheep - -	219	„ Mules and asses	2,624
Bloomer - - -	280	Biscuits - - -	228
Cement - - -	302	Butter: Oleomargarine -	255
Cutlery - -	203	Candles: Sperm -	328
Wines - - -	226	Cheese - - -	668
		Coals - - -	2,827
		Coffee - - -	314
		Confectionery - -	348
		Cottons and woollens -	3,741
		Fish, salted and dried -	1,937
		Flour, Wheat - -	2,045
		Haberdashery - -	1,515
		Hardware - -	1,113
		Leather: Boots and shoes	790
		Machinery and agricultural implements -	1,470
		Manures - - -	1,422
		Medicines - -	267
		Machinery for coasting steamers - -	357
		Oats and bran - -	217
		Paints and varnish -	272
		Preserves - -	800
		Rice - - -	2,103
		Shingles - - -	269
		Silks and satins - -	645
		Soap - - -	699
		Wood—pitch and white pine - - -	639

Exports.

The value of the exports for 1892 was 179,056*l.*, showing a decrease of 2 447*l.* compared with the preceding year, but ar

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

increase of 22,881*l.* compared with the average yearly value of the exports for the five years 1887–91.

In the following table are shown the articles of export in which an increase or decrease of 200*l.* or over in value occurred in 1892 compared with the previous year, and the amount of such increase or decrease :—

Articles.	Amount of increase in 1892 compared with 1891.	Articles.	Amount of decrease in 1892 compared with 1891.
	£		£
Ammunition - -	370	Coals - - -	8,780
Rum - - -	320	Cocoa - - -	5,188
Sugar : Usine - -	15,344	Corn - - -	332
Molasses - - -	2,246	Farine manioc - -	487
		Mangoes - -	1,696
		Rice - - -	1,115
		Iron, Galvanized -	903
		Sugar, Muscovado -	3,597
		Woods, Logwood -	1,334

It will be observed that, as compared with the previous year, there was a large increase in the value of the Usines sugar, and a considerable decrease in that of the Muscovado sugar, exported during 1892, and that a serious falling off occurred in the case of cocoa. This latter decrease is attributable to the shortness of the crop, owing to the season having been a very unfavourable one for cocoa.

The mangoe crop was also a very poor one, and resulted in a falling off to the amount of 1,696*l.* in the value of the exports of this fruit as compared with the preceding year.

The subjoined table exhibits a comparative statement of the value of the exports in 1892 of the three principal articles of exports, and the average yearly value of the exports of these articles for the preceding ten years 1882–91.

Articles.	Value.		Increase in 1892 over average for 10 preceding years.	Decrease in 1892 below average for 10 preceding years.
	1892.	Average for 10 years 1882–91.		
Sugar :	£	£	£	£
Usine - - -	76,214	48,097	28,117	—
Muscovado - -	14,656	55,926	—	41,270
Molasses - -	7,580	6,559	1,021	—
Cocoa - - -	23,470	18,335	5,135	—
	121,920	128,917	34,273	41,270

It will be observed from the above statement that, as compared with the average for the preceding ten years, there was an increase in the value of the exports of Usine sugar, molasses, and cocoa amounting in the total to 34,273*l.*, and a decrease in that of the export of Muscovado sugar amounting to 41,270*l.*, showing a difference in the way of decrease in the year under review of 6,997*l.*

Of the total exports amounting to 179,056*l.* in value 44,757*l.* worth were exported to the United Kingdom; 7,153*l.* to British colonies, 84,446*l.* to foreign countries, of which last-named amount the United States absorbed 56,402*l.*, and the remainder, viz., 42,700*l.*, was the value of the bunker coal exported.

The value of the exports in 1892 exceeded that of the imports by 6,031*l.*; whereas, in the preceding year the position was reversed, the value of the imports exceeding that of the exports by 40,675*l.*

Shipping.

Six hundred and one vessels entered, and the same number cleared, at the Port of Castries during the year. Of those that entered 246 were sailing and 355 steam vessels; and of those that cleared 249 were sailing and 252 steam vessels.

The aggregate tonnage of the vessels entered during the year amounted to 398,249 tons.

The number of vessels which entered in 1892 fell short of that for 1891 by 50, 42 fewer sailing and 8 fewer steam vessels entering in 1892; and there was a decrease of 32,538 tons in the aggregate tonnage.

Of the sailing vessels, 229 were with cargo, and 17 were in ballast; and of the steam vessels 157 were with cargo and 198 were in ballast.

Of the 355 steam vessels which entered during the year, 109 called for the purpose only of taking in bunker coal, and 68 regular traders coaled, making a total of 177 steamers which coaled at this port during the year.

The 246 sailing vessels which entered were composed of vessels of the following nationalities:—British 200, French 25, Italian 2, Danish 2, American 5, Dutch 11, Norwegian 1; and the 355 steam vessels which entered were made up of 313 British, 3 French, 4 Russian, 3 Belgian, and 3 German.

The subjoined statement shows the number of vessels and amount of tonnage entered and cleared during 1892, and the averages for the previous five years.

	1892.		Average for five years 1887-91.		Increase in 1892 over average for five preceding years.		Decrease in 1892 compared with average for five preceding years.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.
ENTERED.								
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - -	229	12,380	222	12,192	7	188	—	—
In ballast - - -	17	1,889	24	2,597	—	—	7	708
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - -	157	171,110	154	164,866	3	6,244	—	—
In ballast - - -	198	212,870	166	185,071	32	27,799	—	—
Total - -	601	398,249	566	364,726	42	34,231	7	708
CLEARED.								
Sailing Vessels:								
With cargo - -	226	10,578	189	8,664	37	1,914	—	—
In ballast - - -	23	4,013	60	6,031	—	—	37	2,018
Steam Vessels:								
With cargo - - -	89	98,636	130	137,986	—	—	41	39,350
In ballast - - -	263	276,954	191	192,330	72	84,624	—	—
Total - -	601	390,181	570	345,011	109	86,538	78	41,368

Post Office.

During the year 1892 there was a notable increase in the transactions of the Post Office, compared with previous years, 48,471 letters and post-cards having been despatched to, and 47,423 letters and post-cards having been received from, the United Kingdom and foreign countries, and 22,617 inland letters and post-cards having passed though the Post Office, making a total of 118,511 letters and post-cards dealt with.

The following comparative statement shows the number of letters, post-cards, newpapers, &c. dispatched and received each year for five years 1888–92:—

1888.		1889.		1890.		1891.		1892.	
Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.	Letters and Post-cards.	Papers and Books.
75,391	35,714	86,363	56,961	90,748	59,523	102,997	87,998	118,511	94,036

Money orders to the amount of 4,353*l.* were issued, and to the amount of 994*l.* were paid, during the year, these sums being a considerable increase on the transactions of the previous year.

The following were the receipts from the sale of stamps, commissions on money orders, &c. :—

	£
Stamps sold - - - - -	2,167
Unpaid letters delivered - - -	28
Commission on money orders - - -	70
Rent of letter boxes - - - -	27
	£2,292

being 365*l.* in excess of the amount received in the year 1891.

Crown Lands.

Grants of Crown lands to the number of twelve in the country and five in towns were made during the year, the total acreage granted being 75$\frac{1}{7}$ acres.

There were 96 applications for grants during the year, the lots applied for varying from 5 to 10 acres. Owing to the long absence from the Colony of the Director of Surveys, partly on sick leave and partly on duty in St. Vincent and Grenada, as much progress as could be wished was not made in dealing with the many applications or Crown grants.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The Royal Gaol, Castries, is a military as well as a general prison, soldiers undergoing a sentence of not more than 14 days being confined therein. It is also used as a place of temporary detention for soldiers undergoing longer terms of imprisonment, pending transfer to Barbados.

The sanitary state of the gaol was satisfactory, and no disease of an epidemic nature occurred during the year.

The number of persons committed to prison in 1892 was 579, including 43 military prisoners. Of the number committed, 451 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment, and 128 for safe custody till trial, or for want of security. There were no committals for debt.

The daily average number in prison was 49·65, being 1·15 in excess of the average for the preceding year.

There were 18 admissions to hospital, and the daily average on the sick list was 1·70.

There were 3 deaths during the year, the same number as in 1891.

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

The following comparative table shows the foregoing particulars for the years 1890, 1891, and 1892 respectively:—

Year.	Total number committed.	For debt.	For safe custody.	For purposes of penal imprisonment.	Number of those committed who have been formerly convicted.			Daily average number in prison.	Number of admissions into hospital.	Daily average on sick list.	Number of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.				
1890 - - -	460	19	119	341	49	11	37	50·77	10	1·61	*2
1891 - - -	547	7	127	413	56	40	57	48·50	21	2·26	3
1892 - - -	579	—	128	451	45	29	60	49·63	18	1·70	3

* One executed.

It will be seen from the foregoing figures that the commitments during the year were in excess of those respectively for 1890 and 1891, and that, while the re-convictions were more numerous than those for 1890, they were fewer than those for 1891.

The increase in the number of commitments in 1892 as compared with the previous year was made up of commitments of soldiers for military offences.

Corporal punishment was awarded four times during the year. The total number of lashes inflicted was 45.

Criminal Statistics.

As compared with the preceding year, there was an increase of 92 in the number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1892, the number amounting to 1,691, against 1,599 for the previous year.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before a magistrate was slightly in excess of the figures for 1891, and largely in excess of the average for the five years 1886–90.

The number of persons summarily convicted was 1,143, and the number committed for trial in the Superior Courts 23. Of the number of persons committed for trial in the Superior Courts, three were not indicted, twowere discharged for want of prosecution, a *nolle prosequi* was entered in one case, eight were convicted, and nine were acquitted.

The following comparative table shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, &c. in 1892 and 1891 respectively, and the averages for the five years 1886–90:—

—	1892.	1891.	Average for Five Years, 1886–90.
Number of Offences reported to Police	1,691	1,599	1,286
Number of persons apprehended by police or summoned before the magistrate	2,015	2,035	1,587
Number of summary convictions	1,143	1,167	743
Number of persons committed for trial in the Superior Courts	23	20	32
Number of persons acquitted in Inferior Courts	849	848	813
Number of persons acquitted in Superior Courts	9	3	11
Percentage of convictions in Inferior Courts	52	53	48
Percentage of convictions in Superior Courts	47	79	65

Hospitals.

As in my report for 1891, I am able to state that the sanitary condition of the hospitals was very satisfactory.

With the exception of the prevalence for a short time in the early part of the year of a mild type of influenza, no disease of an epidemic nature appeared in the Colony during 1892.

There were 2,809 patients admitted into the hospitals (exclusive of the Yaws Hospital) during the year, making with those remaining in hospital from the preceding year, viz., 171, a total of 2,980 patients treated. Of this number 2,631 were discharged cured, 81 were discharged relieved, and 134 died.

Of the 2,980 patients treated in the hospitals during the year 975 were cases of malarial fever.

As in the previous year, the type of the disease was of a mild nature, and the mortality was but slight, being only 1·02 per cent. of the number treated. The deaths amongst the total number of patients treated in hospital during the year were at the rate of 4·49 per cent.

Yaws Hospital.—There were 55 patients admitted into the Yaws Hospital during the year, which, with the 27 patients remaining in hospital at the close of 1891, made a total of 82 cases treated.

Of the 82 cases treated 38 were discharged cured, 1 was discharged uncured, and 4 died; the deaths being at the rate of 4·88 per cent. of the number treated.

Dispensaries.—The number of persons who received medical aid at the Dispensaries during the year, was 8,917, being 612 in excess of the number treated in the year 1891. The principal diseases treated were malarial fevers and diseases of the digestive system.

Poor Asylum.—There were 78 destitute persons admitted into the Poor Asylum, Castries, during the year, which number, with the 38 inmates remaining over from 1891, makes a total of 116 destitute persons who received food, shelter, clothing, and medical attendance in the institution during 1892. Many of those remaining over from the previous year, and of those admitted in 1892, were afflicted with chronic or incurable diseases. Of the number (116) who were afforded aid in the institution during the year, 52 were discharged relieved, and 27 died, leaving 37 remaining in the asylum at the end of the year under review.

The death-rate was 23·27 per cent., a lower death-rate than that for previous years.

The Medical Officer of the Poor Asylum reports that, whereas formerly there was an excessive mortality from diarrhœa amongst the inmates of the asylum, a marked decrease in the number of deaths from that disease has taken place since 1890, in and from which year the inmates were and have been supplied with rain water stored in a concrete tank, instead of, as formerly, with river water drawn from the Castries town hydrants.

Lunatic Asylum.—This asylum is only a temporary one in which lunatics are detained until they can be transferred to the General Lunatic Asylum at Grenada.

Four lunatics were admitted into the asylum in 1892. Of these two were discharged cured, one was discharged as "relieved," and one died.

The total number of cases treated during the year in the hospitals and asylums and at the dispensaries was 12,101, at a total cost (including salaries of medical officers, hospital attendants, &c.) amounting to £6,105, which gives an average of 10*s.* 1*d.* per case, and an average of 2*s.* 10¾*d.* per head of the population.

Botanical Station.

The work carried out during the year was principally of a routine nature, and the gradual filling up of the swampy plot of land adjoining the garden was proceeded with.

The growth and condition of the various trees and shrubs wer satisfactory, and the plantations of cocoa and nutmegs throve exceedingly well.

The proceeds of the sale of plants, seedlings, fruit and flowers amounted to 36*l.*

Meteorology.

The mean temperature in the shade, as shown by the observations taken at the Morne at an elevation of 790 feet above sea level, was 76·7°. The mean maximum temperature for the year was 82·7°, and the mean minimum 70·8°.

The highest monthly mean maximum temperature (84·3°) was in September, and the lowest mean monthly minimum (69·0°) in February.

The absolute maximum temperature (89·2°) occurred in the months of January, August, and September; and the absolute minimum (59·6°) in August.

The total rainfall for the year amounted to 109·67 inches, the rains having been unusually abundant, and in excess of the average yearly rainfall.

The heaviest monthly rainfall (20·12 inches) occurred in June, and the lowest (2·67 inches) in February.

General Observations.

The year under review was not a very prosperous one for St. Lucia. The cocoa crop was a short one, and the price of sugar was low. Although the sugar crop was not a deficient one the low price obtained for it made it a poorly remunerative one.

Among minor exports that of managoes was comparatively small, in consequence of an extensive failure in the crop of that fruit.

Owing to causes which I have enumerated elsewhere in this report, the revenue for the year fell short of the estimated revenue by a considerable sum, and there was a general falling off in the trade of the Colony throughout the greater part of the year.

The prevalence of cholera in Europe necessitated the adoption of quarantine precautions and restrictions in this as in the other West Indian Colonies, but as the period of quarantine for vessels arriving from infected or suspected ports was of a shorter duration than that fixed by the other West Indian Islands, St. Lucia was placed in the invidious and inconvenient position of being quarantined by our neighbours, both British and foreign.

It would, I think, be very expedient and advisable if all the West Indian Colonies adopted similar quarantine periods in cases of epidemics.

In conclusion, I am glad to be able to report that cocoa is being largely planted in many parts of the island; and as the price of that commodity is a very remunerative one, and the soil

ST. LUCIA. 1892.

and climate of St. Lucia are well adapted for its growth, there is every reason to hope that prosperous days await the Colony in the not far distant future.

(Signed) V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY,
Administrator-in-Chief.

Government House, St. Lucia,
19th July 1893.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 84.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 38.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
September 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.-34.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 84.

ST. VINCENT.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 38.]

Administrator GOULDSBURY to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

St. Lucia, July 10, 1893.

Forwarded,

V. SKIPTON GOULDSBURY.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c. &c &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
June 24, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892.

2. The Blue Book is being printed and will be forwarded to your Excellency probably by next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

His Excellency
The Hon. Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Grenada.

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1. *Taxes and Duties.*

To meet the purposes of the McKinley Treaty, considerable changes took place under this head.

On the 23rd January ordinances were passed to the following effect:—Certain imports upon which duty was previously collected were exempted from duty, whilst the duty on others was reduced by 50 or 25 per cent. This change was considered to bring about

ST. VINCENT. 1892.

a reduction on customs duties by 1,600*l.* To meet the deficiency in the amount on Revenue for the year already estimated, increased duty was levied on the one part upon all spirits intended for consumption whether made in the Colony or imported; and on the other part an additional export tax was levied on sugar.

By Ordinance No. 11 of 1891, which came into force on the 1st January 1892, a general licence to sell charcoal was reduced from 15*s.* to 5*s.*

By Ordinance No. 1 of 1892 the price of an hotel licence was reduced from 10*l.* to 6*l.*

Fees.

The only change under this head was a new scale of fees provided for the Registrar of Shipping, the Admeasurer of Shipping, and the Shipping Master.

2. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

Revenue.

The Revenue of 1892 was 28,906*l.* This exceeded the Revenue of 1891 by 390*l.*, an almost nominal difference, and looking to the fiscal variations necessitated by the McKinley Treaty, a matter for congratulation. The Revenue laws passed in connection with the Treaty involved an estimated decline in certain import duties of 1,600*l.*, less an increase in duties on spirits of 6*d.* a gallon. The comparative statement given in this Report, shows that the net loss of revenue by import duties was 1,141*l.* This sum may therefore be taken as fairly representing the net loss in import duties by reduction in the tariff.

The general revenue was sustained, as against the loss through the McKinley tariff, by the increase in the duty on imported spirits, a similar increase in the excise duty on native spirit (rum), and an increase in the export duty on sugar. There was also a rally in the excise trade, aiding the revenue by the increased issue of licences and sale of rum.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of 1892 was 23,112*l.*, 388*l.* more than in 1891. The only details of the increase deserving of notice are: Under "Treasury," &c., 218*l.* towards the establishment of a revenue cruiser; under "Medical" the cost of an additional Medical Officer; under "Educational" a permanent increase in the "Grants to schools"; and under "Public Works" a decrease in repairs and outlay on the new works, which may be regarded as casual.

3. *Public Debt.*

At the close of the year the Public Debt of the Colony was 15,250*l.*, as against 14,360*l.* at the end of 1891.

The increase of debt by 890*l.* is due to the issue of debentures for a further loan of 1,500*l.* under the Kingstown Water Supply Loan Ordinance, 1889. This amount was needed to effect the cost of completion of the Waterworks for the towns of Kingstown and Georgetown; the debt for other purposes, except for Crown lands, has been steadily reduced.

The following is a statement of the public debt at the end of 1892:—

	£
1. Government House Loan - - -	1,680
2. Immigration Loan - - -	3,250
3. Public Buildings Loan - - -	600
4. Crown Lands Loan - - -	1,920
5. Public Debt Loan - - - -	2,200
6. Kingstown Waterworks Loan - -	5,600
	£15,250

4. *Public Works.*

The total expenditure on Public Works during the year was 3,389*l.* or 923*l.* less than in the previous year.

Of this sum 1,155*l.* was spent on Highways.

The following is a list of some of the principal works undertaken during 1892:—

General repairs and painting Court House.
Painting four police stations.
Renewing Chateaubelair Jetty.
Repairs to Souffriere Road.
Telephonic communication in Kingstown.
Bridge over Cumberland River.

Several repairs were also effected to the various Government buildings throughout the Colony at the cost of 193*l.*

5. *Legislation.*

Eight Ordinances were passed in 1892, the titles of which are as follows:—

No. 1. To amend the Liquor Licence Ordinances, 1886 and 1891.

No. 2. To repeal an Ordinance intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Medical Aid Ordinance, 1878," and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

No. 3. To repeal the Excise Ordinance, 1888, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

No. 4. To amend Ordinance Number Eleven of 1878 and to repeal Ordinance Number Twenty-nine of 1888.

No. 5. To amend the Imports Tariff Ordinances, 1881 and 1887.

No. 6. To authorise a loan from the General Revenue for the purchase of land adjoining the town of Georgetown and to incorporate such land and also other land with the said town.

No. 7. To amend the law relating to infant mortality.

No. 8. To exempt oil-meal from import duty.

Ordinances Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 8 were made to meet the purposes of the McKinley Treaty.

6. *Councils.*

Mr. Henry A. Hazell, an unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, resigned his seats on the 11th of January.

Mr. George Smith, Q.C., an unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, resigned his seats on the 11th of January.

Mr. Charles Ormond Hazell was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 19th of January.

Mr. Charles J. Simmons, an unofficial member of the Legislative Council, obtained leave of absence from the 12th of August to the 6th of December.

Mr. James G. Coull was appointed on the 1st of December to be, provisionally, a member of the Legislative Council.

7. *Civil Establishment.*

The following changes occurred :—

Mr. T. B. C. Musgrave was on the 1st of January appointed Superintendent of Crown Lands, and on the 23rd of April provisionally Chief Clerk in the Government Office, on the promotion to another Colony of Mr. C. F. Clements.

He was confirmed in this office on the 16th of June by the Secretary of State.

Mr. J. C. Choppin resigned the appointment of Attorney-General on the 4th of January, and Oliver Smith, Esq., M.A., was appointed by the Secretary of State to fill the office.

Dr. Martin O'Carroll, Medical Officer of No. 3 District, was suspended on the 18th of January from the performance of his duties. This was confirmed by the Secretary of State on the 15th of March.

Dr. R. A. Cleveland was temporarily appointed Medical Officer of No. 3 District consequent on the suspension of Dr. O'Carroll.

Mr. Frank W. Griffith was confirmed in the appointment of Inspector of Schools by the Secretary of State on the 18th of February.

On the 22nd of April Mr. Clifton Grannum was appointed Second Clerk in the Government Office.

Consequent on the removal of Mr. G. D. Mackie, Clerk in the Treasury, who was appointed Clerk in the Survey Office on the 11th of May, the following appointments were made:—Mr. H. A. Lewis to the Treasury, in the place of Mr. Mackie; Mr. W. E. Davis, Magistrate's Clerk, in place of Mr. Lewis; Mr. T. Dyer, Post Office Clerk, in place of Mr. Davis.

On the 12th of May Mr. Cecil F. Sitwell was appointed to act as Chief of Police during the absence of Mr. E. D. Laborde.

Mr. C. T. Hughes was appointed Clerk to the Postmaster on the 19th of May, *vice* Mr. T. Dyer promoted to St. Lucia.

Colonel J. H. Sandwith, C.B., administered the Government of the Colony from the 21st of June to 8th November, during the absence on leave of Captain I. C. Maling.

Dr. C. Jenner-Parson was appointed Acting Medical Officer of No. 4 District on the 5th of July, during absence of Dr. M. G. Pereira.

On the 2nd of August Mr. H. B. Walcott was appointed to act as Treasury Accountant during the absence of Mr. G. F. Grant.

On the 16th of August Dr. W. S. B. Austin was tranferred from District No. 2 to perform duties of Assistant Medical Officer, Kingstown, and Dr. M. G. Pereira transferred from No. 4 to No. 2 District.

The Honourable C. O. Hazell acted as Attorney-General during the absence on leave of the Honourable O. Smith from the 26th of August to the 22nd of November.

Brigade Surgeon V. S. Gouldsbury, M.D., C.M.G., was appointed Administrator-in-Chief of the Windward Islands during the absence on leave of the Governor, and administered the Government from the 28th to the 29th of September.

8. *Pensions.*

During the year one pension was granted, viz.:—

	£
Mr. James C. Choppin, late Attorney-General -	440

The pension list has been, on the other hand, relieved by the deaths of the following pensioners:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Mr. John Reilly, late Police Magistrate -	242	8	0
Dr. Arnott, late Colonial Surgeon -	156	12	0
Miss Cumming, late Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths - -	18	8	4
	£417	8	4

The pension list has thus been increased by 22*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* only.

9. *Population.*

The births in the year, exclusive of still-births, numbered 1,908, and the deaths, exclusive of still-births, 1,022, giving a natural increase of 886.

The still-births were 117.

Two hundred and forty marriages were performed during the year, or 39 in excess of the previous year.

The total population of the Colony at the end of the year is estimated at 42,600.

10. *Education.*

There were 44 schools open during the year, 41 in St. Vincent, and three in the Grenadines, with an average attendance of 3,292, and a total of 5,848 names on the registers.

It is satisfactory to be able again to observe that the statistics show a considerable increase on the previous year, as may be seen from the following comparative statement:—

	1891.	1892.
Number on rolls - - - -	5,348	5,848
Average attendance - - - -	2,925	3,292
Candidates presented at annual examinations	2,561	2,878
Passes in the standards - - -	1,928	2,494
Marks awarded - - - -	27,812	31,430

The total amount of the Government grant to primary schools was 1,817*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* This is the largest sum that has been expended since 1882, and is a favourable sign, as in 1882 there were 65 schools open, as compared with 44 in 1892, showing that large and well-managed schools earning better results are gradually taking the place of small schools.

It is to be regretted, however, that it was not possible for the proposed new Education Code to be brought into force before the close of the year.

A further sum of 131*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was granted in aid of the Kingstown Grammar School, 31*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* of which represents capitation fees at the rate of 2*l.* 10*s.* per head allowed to a girl's department attached to the school.

11. *Friendly Societies.*

There are now 21 friendly societies, five having been registered during 1892.

12. *Imports and Exports.*

Imports.

The value of the Imports in 1892 was 102,981*l.*, or 5,142*l.* in excess of the Imports of 1891. The value of Imports from the United Kingdom increased 4,865*l.*, and from British Colonies, 5,124*l.*, whilst from the United States there was a decrease of 5,056*l.* These two last items are, however, nominal, and are due to the circumstances that in 1891 there was a direct trade with the United States by steam, which was discontinued in 1892. Therefore in 1892 merchandise had to be imported viâ Barbados, and to be treated in the Customs Returns as Imports from that Colony. As a matter of fact nearly everything shown as imported from British Colonies, is imported from Barbados, and nearly every item of such things is the product of some other place. Flour, meal, beef, pork, grain, lard, lumber, kerosine oil, imported as from Barbados have the United States as their country of origin; the lumber and fish may be traced back largely to Canada; rice to the East Indies, and spirits to the United Kingdom and Holland.

The net increase of 5,142*l.* in the year's imports cannot be traced to any articles in particular, for decreases in the details of imports are as numerous as the increases. Goods free of duty, indeed, show an excess against 1891 of 6,652*l.*, and a casual glance without thought might make one regard this item as accounting for the net increase in all the imports. But it is not so; the increase in the value of "Duty Free" goods imported is the result of the transfer to that class of many kinds of goods rendered duty free under the McKinley Treaty.

Exports.

The value of the exports in 1892 amounted to 117,572*l.* This exceeded the like figures in 1891 by 18,899*l.* The trade of which this increase was made up was distributed thus:—

	£
To the United Kingdom - - -	12,468
British Colonies - - - -	13,124
	25,592
Less net decreased exports to foreign countries	6,693
	£18,899

The export trade with the United States decreased in 1892 by 8,999*l.* The whole of the sugar had been, as for some years preceding, shipped to that country; but the quantity of produce was very much reduced, and prices were almost the lowest ever realized. These two causes combined to make up the reduced figures shown.

ST. VINCENT. 1892.

The following tables will show the quantities and values of the principal products of the Colony exported, and their destination during 1892. There is also a table of comparison with the average figures of the three preceding years, which owing to many fluctuations in those years will afford a better means of comparison than with a single year.

Table of the Quantities, reduced to a common standard, of the prinicpal products of the Colony exported in 1892, *and a comparison thereof with the corresponding average figures of the years* 1889–90–91.

Produce exported.	In 1892.	In 1889–91 (Average)	Increase in 1892.	Decrease in 1892.
Sugar - - - - hhds.	3,884	5,623	—	1,739
Rum - - - - puns.	566	487	79	—
Molasses - - - - „	1,366	2,155	—	789
Arrowroot - - - barrels	23,433	18,373	5,060	—
Cocoa - - - - lbs.	129,589	102,261	27,328	—
Cotton - - - - bales	176	100	76	—

Of the principal products exported, there is some interest to be found in tracing the course of the following figures during the five years 1888 to 1892:—

Tables of Quantities of Products Exported.

——	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Sugar - - hhds.	5,105	5,820	6,078	4,971	3,884
Arrowroot - barrels	15,458	16,732	20,846	17,540	23,433
Cocoa - - lbs.	73,862	89,329	102,771	114,683	129,589

By this table will be seen the upward progress of sugar production to 1890, and its hasty decline afterwards. Arrowroot and cocoa are now the main chances of the Colony. The price of arrowroot in the last two years has been unprecedented, and seems to indicate that the intrinsic value of the product is being better appreciated in the world's markets. As the product of arrowroot is almost wholly limited to St. Vincent and Natal, and the product of Natal had almost disappeared nearly the very moment when the Jamaica Exhibition produced its effects on the

exhibits colony of St. Vincent, it may be assumed that the St. Vincent arrowroot finds itself, all of a sudden, in a position of commercial good luck, with the knowledge that arrowroot production cannot be increased on the smallest scale inside of at least six months, and on a scale (for want of plants) likely to affect prices, for a much longer time; so that there is a good early future for those who have arrowroot estates.

Table of the Values of Products shown in the preceding table and similar comparison.

Produce Exported.	Value 1892.	Average 1889–91.	Increase in 1892.	Decrease in 1892.
	£	£	£	£
Sugar - - - - hhds.	33,366	57,942	—	24,576
Rum - - - - puns.	4,530	4,421	109	—
Molasses - - - - „	4,158	6,651	—	2,493
Arrowroot - - - brls.	61,313	29,152	32,161	—
Cocoa - - - - lbs.	2,700	2,152	548	—
Cotton - - - - bales	1,029	520	509	—

Table of the Destination of the Principal Products of the Colony Exported in 1892.

Product.	Destination.		
	United Kingdom.	United States.	
Sugar - - hhds.	—	3,382	
Rum - - puns.	497	—	Venezuela. 60.
Molasses - „	—	—	French W. Indies. 1366.
Arrowroot - brls.	17,008	6,224	
Cocoa - - lbs.	73,320	—	British W. Indies. 57,269.
Cotton - - bales	153	—	23.

13. *Shipping.*

The total number of sailing vessels entered during the year under review was 313. The tonnage of these vessels in the aggregate amounted to 13,566, their crews to 1,637.

The total number of sailing vessels cleared was 301, with a tonnage of 14,382, and crews 1,735.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 105, with tonnage amounting to 119,154 and crews 4,653.

Clearances of steam vessels were in all respects the same as of those entered.

Of the sailing vessels the nationalities were as follows:—

—	Entered.	Cleared.
British	283	271
American	10	10
Dutch	6	7
Venezuelan	11	11
Norwegian	2	1
French	1	1
Total	313	301

The 119 steam vessels entered and cleared were all British.

The number and tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared in 1892, as compared with 1891 are stated as follows:—

Sailing Vessels.	1891.		1892.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	322	14,410	313	13,566	9	844
Cleared	330	15,377	301	14,382	29	995

The following table will show the differences in the number and tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared as compared with the previous year —

1891.		1892.		Increase.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
101	115,992	105	119,154	4	3,162

14. *Prisons and Prisoners.*

The following table presents a comparative statement of the working of the prison during the last four years:—

Year.	Number of Commitments.	Committed for Debt.	Committed for Custody for Trial or for want of Sureties.	Committed for penal Imprisonment.	Number of Prisoners previously convicted.			Commitment for				Daily Average in Prison.	Admission to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.	Five Years or more.	More than One Year and less than Five Years.	More than Three Months and less than One Year.	Three Months or less.				
1889 - -	192	2	48	142	19	3	20	1	4	7	130	22·9	1	·12	1
1890 - -	170	3	48	119	4	8	10	3	8	2	106	20·0	2	·3	1
1891 - - -	176	1	40	135	16	7	9	1	3	4	127	26·25	1	·38	—
1892 - - -	186	3	54	129	17	10	23	3	7	18	101	33·20	2	·27	—
Total - -	724	9	190	525	56	28	62	8	22	31	464	102·35	6	1·07	2
Average -	181	2	47·5	131·25	14	7	15·5	2	5·5	7·75	116	25·58	1·5	·26	·5

15. *Criminal Statistics.*

There were 1,346 persons summoned before the magistrates, a decrease of 134 as compared with the numbers of the previous year.

The cases were disposed of in the magistrates' courts as follow:—

Discharged for want of prosecution - -	539
Dismissed on the merits - - - -	153
Summary convictions - - - -	625
Committed for trial - - - -	29

Of the persons convicted in the magistrates' courts 493 were fined, 24 underwent imprisonment in default of payments of fines, and 44 peremptory imprisonments, 21 were whipped and 43 were bound over with or without sureties or submitted to some other trivial punishment. There were 21 convictions in the Superior Court, 11 of which were of offences against property and 10 of assault. Of the total number, 129 persons, committed during the year for the purpose of penal imprisonment, there were 50 against whom previous convictions were recorded.

16. *Savings Banks.*

The following table gives a summary of the Savings Bank transactions during the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	Amount of Withdrawals.	At credit of Depositors on December 31.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888 - -	833	3,516 4 5	3,035 10 0	10,318 6 2
1889 - -	920	3,865 10 3	6,019 15 11	8,640 2 7
1890 - -	956	4,607 8 11	4,224 16 2	8,797 1 4
1891 - -	938	5,215 16 8	5,474 5 9	8,714 13 3
1892 - -	946	4,843 5 6	4,750 14 2	8,957 10 6

The rate of interest allowed to depositors is 2½ per centum per annum.

17. *Crown Lands.*

In addition to the routine duties consequent on the work done up to the end of 1891, I am glad to be able to say that considerable progress has been made in the Trigonometrical Survey of the island commenced in 1891. During the year, also, 74 applicants received allotments, the total acreage surveyed being 505 acres. A

great deal more work would doubtless have been accomplished had not the duties of the Office of Director of Surveys of the Windward Islands been performed throughout the year in conjunction with those of the office of Director of Public Works of the Windward Islands, as during the first half of the year Mr. Reeve, the Director of Surveys, acted for Mr. Messervy, the Director of Public Works, absent on account of ill health, whilst during the latter half Mr. Messervy acted for Mr. Reeve, himself obliged to go home on sick leave.

The scheme is progressing favourably and the people are evincing a great desire to avail themselves of the benefit of possessing land of their own, whilst, on the one hand, lack of ready money amongst the people prevents sales from being more rapidly effected; on the other hand, the fact that applications for land are steadily received, fairly shows that the majority of applicants, while anxious to purchase lands, are delayed by having to save or by other efforts obtain sufficient money to pay the necessary survey fee, an indication, patent enough, that the advantage offered to the peasant is not unperceived.

18. *Hospitals.*

The number of patients in the Colonial Hospital at the close of the year 1891 was 59, viz., 31 males and 28 females.

The admissions in 1892 were 400, of whom 263 were males and 137 females. There were, therefore, 459 patients treated during the year, the daily average being 58·5.

There were 61 operations performed during the year, of which, it is satisfactory to note, only one case succumbed.

The following table gives the number of cases treated under the classes stated, with the number of deaths, as compared with 1891:—

Diseases treated.	1891.		1892.	
	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.
General - - -	118	16	117	17
Local - - - -	291	15	284	14
Injuries - - -	54	1	58	1
Total - - -	463	32	459	32

(Signed) IRWIN C. MALING,
Administrator.

St. Vincent, 24th June 1893.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 64.

SIERRA LEONE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 15.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1893.



LONDON:
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1893.

[C.—6857.–14.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following among other Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
24	Straits Settlements	1890
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 &'90
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 &'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	"
51	Leeward Islands	"
52	Grenada	"
53	St. Lucia	"
54	Labuan	"
55	British Guiana	"
56	Zululand	"
57	Mauritius	"
58	Lagos	"
59	Straits Settlements	"
60	Ceylon	"
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	"
63	St. Helena	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 64.

SIERRA LEONE.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 14.]

Sir F. FLEMING to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Sierra Leone,
(EXTRACT.) October 5, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891, which has been prepared by Mr. C. Burney Mitford, the Acting Colonial Secretary.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1891.

Colonial Secretariat, Freetown, Sierra Leone,
SIR, September 24, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency my report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891.

The book itself is being printed locally for the first time, and I regret that it is still in the hands of the printer, the delay in completing it being due to the unprecedented amount of other work which has had to be done in the printing office, and it was deemed advisable to postpone the printing of it until such time as some important and lengthy bills had been laid before Council.

1.—TAXES AND DUTIES.

There were no changes under this head during the year.

By Public Notice No. 25, of the 7th of March, it was notified that the laws relating to licences would, however, be strictly enforced in all places within the jurisdiction of the Colony from the 1st of April.

The tariff consists of certain specific duties and an ad valorem duty of 7½ per cent., which cannot but be considered moderate as compared with that of some other Colonies.

There is no direct taxation, nor is there any export duty. Articles imported for agricultural, manufacturing and educational purposes are exempted from duty, as are also coals, specie, and unpreserved fruits.

I 73900. Wt. 10230.

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

2.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The total revenue, including the Parliamentary grant in aid of the colonial steamer, was 89,869*l.*, showing an excess of 17,520*l.* over the estimated amount, 72,349*l.*

The excess of 14,000*l.* in the revenue derived from Customs is in a measure due to the unprecedented importation of firearms and ammunition which took place during the year, but I have every reason to believe that each succeeding year will show a marked improvement on the preceding one, although the increase may not be so large as now appears to have been the case.

A steady and equable increase in the revenue is more desirable than sudden large excesses over the estimates.

Under the head of licences there was an increase of 1,492*l.*, owing to the Public Notice already referred to by me and also to the collection of certain amounts which were found to be due to the Government.

As regards the increase under the head of interest, 508*l.*, I think little or no explanation is required, as it is due to the large investments made during the year; those for "General Service" at the end of 1890 amounted to 9,000*l.*, only, whereas at the close of the year now under review they had increased to no less than 23,000*l.* The investments on account of the Savings Bank also rose from 15,715*l.* to 20,215*l.*

The total increase of revenue in 1891 over that of 1890 was 18,914*l.*, whilst the decrease amounted to 2,753*l.*, showing a net increase of 16,161*l.* above the revenue of the previous year.

The following statement compares the revenue of the years 1890 and 1891:—

Heads of Receipt.	1890.	1891.	Increase, 1891.	Decrease, 1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	53,810 7 8	70,000 9 0	16,190 1 4	—
Port, Harbour, and Light Dues	5,167 16 1	2,998 0 6	—	2,169 15 7
Licences, Excise, &c.	4,725 7 5	6,201 18 7	1,476 11 2	—
Fees of Court or Office; Payments for Specific Services	4,613 19 1	4,987 17 2	373 18 1	—
Post Office	868 1 9	820 4 7	—	47 17 2
Rents of Government Property	146 17 6	156 9 10	9 12 4	—
Interest	589 9 9	1,078 7 8	488 17 11	—
Miscellaneous Receipts	233 18 6	416 17 5	182 18 11	—
Land Sales	760 0 0	225 0 0	—	535 0 0
Parliamentary Grant for Colonial Steamer	2,776 16 9	2,931 4 0	154 7 3	—
Special Receipt, Colonial Steamer	15 6 8	52 11 4	37 4 8	—
Total	73,708 1 2	89,869 0 1	18,913 11 8	2,752 12 9

Statement of estimated and actual receipts for 1891 :—

Heads of Receipt.	Amount estimated.	Total Receipts.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	56,000	70,000 9 0	14,000 9 0	—
Port, Harbour, and Light Dues	2,660	2,998 0 6	338 0 6	—
Licenses, Excise, &c.	4,710	6,201 18 7	1,491 18 7	—
Fees of Court or Office Payments for Specific Services	4,446	4,987 17 2	541 17 2	—
Post Office	710	820 4 7	110 4 7	—
Rents of Government Property	173	156 9 10	—	16 10 2
Interest	570	1,078 7 8	508 7 8	—
Miscellaneous Receipts	180	416 17 5	236 17 7	—
Land Sales	—	225 0 0	225 0 0	—
Parliamentary Grant for Colonial Steamer	2,900	2,931 4 0	31 4 0	—
Special Receipts, Colonial Steamer	—	52 11 4	52 11 4	—
Total	72,349	89,869 0 1	17,536 10 3	16 10 2

Expenditure

The estimated expenditure was 73,200*l.*, and the amount actually expended was 77,965*l.* This excess was principally owing to the fact that a sum of 8,454*l.*, balance of the amount due by the Colony to the Imperial Government, was repaid by direction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State.

There was an excess of expenditure of 887*l.* under "Hospitals and Dispensaries," owing to the cost of certain medicines, &c., ordered in 1890 being brought to account in 1891 and also to the unexpected increase in the rate of contract prices.

Under "Miscellaneous Services" the excess of 744*l.* is due to expenses incurred in taking the Census and for work performed in the ordnance factories in England.

The excess under Public Works, recurrent and extraordinary, 2,577*l.*, is accounted for by various works having been authorised to be done and undertaken during the year which were not contemplated when the estimates were in course of preparation.

Deducting the total excess of expenditure, 4,765*l.*, from the total excess of revenue, 17,520*l.*, it will be seen that the net gain accruing to the Colony on the transactions of the year has been no less than 12,755*l.*, which cannot but be considered very satisfactory.

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

The following statement compares the expenditure for the years 1890 and 1891 :—

Heads of Expenditure.	1890.	1891.	Increase, 1891.	Decrease, 1891.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charge for Public Debt	4,937 15 3	13,510 18 1	8,573 2 10	—
Pensions	3,012 3 3	3,054 2 4	41 19 1	—
Governor and Legislature	659 17 8	931 12 1	271 14 5	—
Coolnial Secretary's Department	1,419 7 2	1,535 17 0	116 9 10	—
Provincial Administration	1,861 16 6	1,406 19 9	—	454 10 9
Native Affairs	3,631 2 6	3,683 4 0	2 1 6	—
Treasury	1,595 16 10	1,541 3 9	—	54 13 1
Customs Department	5,390 3 11	6,211 4 3	821 0 4	—
Audit Department	170 13 10	181 5 0	10 11 2	—
Port and Marine Department	1,424 8 10	656 2 11	—	768 5 11
Legal Departments	2,743 8 6	3,567 16 10	824 8 4	—
Police	11,307 0 9	12,838 16 2	1,531 15 5	—
Prisons	2,924 8 1	2,944 14 2	20 6 1	—
Medical Department	2,705 3 8	2,734 12 5	29 8 9	—
Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,471 17 10	3,312 6 8	840 8 10	—
Sanitary	626 10 6	790 2 4	163 11 10	—
Ecclesiastical	727 2 7	681 16 0	—	45 6 7
Education	1,560 18 11	1,749 4 4	188 5 5	—
Transport	3,628 11 1	2,655 11 5	—	972 19 8
Miscellaneous Services	3,821 16 8	4,012 16 3	190 19 7	—
Post Office	872 18 8	1,382 9 0	509 10 4	—
Colonial Surveyor's Department	647 15 7	516 0 11	—	131 14 8
Public Works, Extraordinary	—	1,920 18 3	—	—
Do. Recurrent	1,972 2 8	3,026 8 1	1,054 5 5	—
Colonial Steamer	2,893 2 3	3,119 2 5	226 0 2	—
Total	63,055 17 6	77,965 4 5	17,336 17 7	2,427 10 8

Statement of estimated and actual expenditure for the year 1891 :—

Heads of Expenditure.	Amount estimated.	Total Payments.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charge for Public Debt - -	6,000 0 0	13,510 18 1	7,510 18 1	—
Pensions - - - - - -	3,105 0 0	3,054 2 4	—	50 17 8
Governor and Legislature - -	1,065 0 0	931 12 1	—	133 7 11
Colonial Secretary's Department -	1,515 0 0	1,535 17 0	20 17 0	—
Provincial Administration - -	1,947 0 0	1,406 19 9	—	540 0 3
Native Affairs - - - - -	4,614 0 0	3,683 4 0	—	930 16 0
Treasury - - - - - -	1,641 0 0	1,541 3 9	—	99 16 3
Customs Department - - -	6,276 0 0	6,211 4 3	—	64 15 9
Audit Department - - -	286 0 0	181 5 0	—	104 15 0
Port and Marine Department -	822 0 0	656 2 11	—	165 17 1
Legal Departments - - -	5,188 0 0	3,567 16 10	—	1,620 3 2
Police - - - - - -	14,189 0 0	12,838 16 2	—	1,350 3 10
Prisons - - - - - -	3,351 0 0	2,944 14 2	—	406 5 10
Medical Department - - -	2,928 0 0	2,734 12 5	—	193 7 7
Hospitals and Dispensaries - -	2,425 0 0	3,312 6 8	887 6 8	—
Sanitary - - - - - -	813 0 0	790 2 4	—	22 17 8
Ecclesiastical - - - -	711 0 0	681 16 0	—	29 4 0
Education - - - - -	1,580 0 0	1,749 4 4	169 4 4	—
Transport - - - - -	3,500 0 0	2,655 11 5	—	844 8 7
Miscellaneous Services - -	3,269 0 0	4,012 16 3	743 16 3	—
Post Office - - - - -	1,381 0 0	1,382 9 0	1 9 0	—
Colonial Surveyor's Department -	574 0 0	516 0 11	—	57 19 1
Public Works, Extraordinary -	370 0 0	1,920 18 3	1,550 18 3	—
Do. Recurrent - -	2,000 0 0	3,026 8 1	1,026 8 1	—
Colonial Steamer - - -	3,659 0 0	3,119 2 5	—	530 17 7
Total - - -	73,200 0 0	77,965 4 5	11,910 17 8	7,145 13 3

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

The revenue and expenditure for the past five years were as under:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1887 - - - -	60,637	58,334
1888 - - - -	63,035	63,288
1889 - - - -	70,836	66,771
1890 - - - -	73,708	63,056
1891 - - - -	89,869	77,965

From the foregoing it will be observed that not only are the finances of the Colony steadily increasing, but also that very great care has been exercised over the expenditure, so as to ensure its being well within the income of the Colony, but I regret to say that this desirable state of affairs has been attained in a measure at the expense of the public buildings, about which I shall have something to say later on.

3.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The financial condition of the Colony for the past five years will be easily seen on reference to the following return:—

Year.	Excess of Assets.	Excess of Liabilities.
	£	£
1887 - - - -	—	42,538
1888 - - - -	—	40,693
1889 - - - -	—	33,101
1890 - - - -	—	19,374
1891 - - - -	1,160	—

which shows that the Colony has, after many years of debt, at last been able to show a surplus of 1,160*l.* over its liabilities, which is not only very satisfactory but points to a general healthy condition in the present state of affairs.

4.—PUBLIC DEBT.

This has been reduced from 58,454*l.* to 50,000*l.*, raised in 1871–3 for the construction of Public Works, to be repaid in 1896–8.

The sinking fund for its redemption amounted to 30,934*l.* on the 31st December 1891. The balance, 8,000*l.*, of the loan from the Imperial Government in 1877, and 454*l* excess over Imperial Grant for mission to Almami Samodu in 1888, were paid off in October, by direction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, to meet which a loan was obtained of 6,500*l.*, of which 3,500*l.* was outstanding at the end of 1891. As the excess of assets over liabilities was 1,160*l.*, the Colony can no longer be considered to be in debt.

5.—MUNICIPALITIES.

No municipality or any other local body invested with authority exists in the Colony. But in every probability a bill entitled the "Municipal Ordinance" will in the course of a few months be introduced into the Legislative Council.

The strong objection to such a measure on the part of the community at large has hitherto been on account of an idea which became fixed in the minds of the natives that it was only another way of reimposing the "House and Land Tax," but there is now, I am glad to say, a general feeling in favour of such legislation, and the people are willing to contribute towards the upkeep of local institutions and interest themselves in local matters. I have more than once heard it said by men of good position that the people are willing to pay anything, but do not call it "House and Land Tax"; anything else and all will go well.

6.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The Imperial Government expended 60,349*l.* on account of the Military establishment here.

The amount paid by the Colony as allowance to the troops in lieu of exemption from Customs duties was 517*l.*

The troops at this station consist of a battalion of the West India Regiment, one company, native, and a detachment, European, of the Royal Artillery, a detachment of the Royal Engineers and Commissariat and Ordnance Departments.

Freetown is a naval depôt and coaling station.

A police force was organised in 1890 for service both within and without the Colony, but more especially for the protection of the frontier, the cost of which amounted to 8,283*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* in 1891. The Police are armed with Snider rifles and swords.

There is no Militia force.

7.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The actual expenditure on Public Works amounted to 4,947*l.* in 1891 as against 1,972*l.* in 1890.

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

The principal works undertaken were new Government offices, a sea-wall 900 feet long, and a Public Hospital at Bonthe, Frontier Police barracks, and rifle range at Bendu, both places being in the Sherbro district.

General repairs were effected to some of the Government buildings and bridges in Freetown and the out-stations, but I regret to observe that all the public buildings are in a very dilapidated condition; some of them require to be rebuilt, and it is to be hoped that the financial condition of the Colony will soon warrant a few of them at least being taken in hand, as it is throwing away money to spend it on constant patching.

8.—LEGISLATION.

The under-mentioned Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to legalise certain payments made in the year 1890 beyond the Expenditure authorised by law.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to confer upon the Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone the necessary power for the detention and deportation of Mormoh Darwah as a political prisoner.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to confer upon the Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone the necessary power for the detention of Santiggy Karay as a political prisoner.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to authorise and provide for the removal of insane persons from the Colony of the Gambia to the Colony of Sierra Leone.

No. 5.—An Ordinance to amend the Law with reference to the personation of Public Officers and others having authority from the Government.

No. 6.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Education Ordinance, 1882."

No. 7.—An Ordinance to regulate the sale and use of Arms and Ammunition in the Colony of Sierra Leone.

No. 8.—An Ordinance to amend the "Sierra Leone Customs Ordinance, 1880."

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend the Law with reference to the personation of Public Officers and others having authority from the Government.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Sierra Leone for the year 1892.

No. 11.—An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Small Penalties.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Sierra Leone Sanitary Ordinance, 1879."

9.—Councils and Assemblies.

Executive Council.

Major S. G. Fairtlough and Lieut.-Colonel J. M. Maltby, of the Royal Artillery and the West India Regiment respectively, became members on assuming command of the troops in the Colony at different periods, and Mr. C. B. Mitford on his appointment as Colonial Treasurer.

Legislative Council.

The members of the Executive Council being also members of the Legislative Council, the foregoing changes equally apply to this Board.

Mr. S. Boyle, an unofficial member, was ill the whole of the year, and Mr. S. Lewis, another unofficial member, was absent from the Colony for a few months in the early portion of the year.

Board of Education.

The changes among official members were the same as in the Executive Council. The Rev. J. C. May, an unofficial member, who had been absent on leave to England from 1st June 1890 returned to the Colony on 1st January and resumed his seat on the Board.

10.—Civil Establishment.

His Excellency Sir J. S. Hay, K.C.M.G., proceeded to England on 21st April 1891 on leave of absence and was subsequently appointed Governor of Barbados. Major J. J. Crooks, the Colonial Secretary, administered the Government from the above date up to the end of the year.

Colonial Secretariat.

Mr. H. Higgins, Colonial Secretary, was, whilst on leave of absence in England, appointed Commissioner of Turks Island, and the vacancy thus created was filled by the promotion of Major J. J. Crooks, from the office of Treasurer to that of Colonial Secretary, from 28th January.

Districts.

Mr. C. H. H. Moseley, Civil Commandant of the Sherbro District, was appointed Colonial Treasurer of the Gambia, on 13th March 1891, and Mr. S. M. Bennett, Assistant Colonial Treasurer,

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

succeeded him as acting Civil Commandant until 3rd December, when Mr. G. H. Garrett, Travelling Commissioner, was appointed manager of the district.

Native Affairs Department.

Mr. J. C. E. Parkes, superintendent, was granted six months leave of absence to England from 11th May, and during his absence, the department was successively in charge of Mr. G. H. Garrett, Major A. McD. Moore, and Captain E. A. W. Lendy.

Colonial Treasury.

Mr. C. B. Mitford, Treasurer of the Gambia, was appointed Colonial Treasurer from 10th February 1891, vice Major J. J. Crooks.

Customs Department.

Mr. C. B. Mitford was in charge of the Customs from 23rd May to 22nd July, in addition to his own duties as Treasurer, during the illness of Mr. M. V. D. Stuart. Mr. W. J. P. Elliott, Treasurer of Lagos, was appointed Collector of Customs of the Colony, from 22nd July, vice Mr. M. V. D. Stuart, who was retired on pension. Mr. Elliott proceeded on leave of absence for six months and ten days to England on 24th December, when Mr. E. Faulkner, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed Acting Collector.

Legal Departments.

The Chief Justice, Mr. W. H. Quayle Jones, was on leave of absence to England from 6th May to 20th September, during which time Mr. J. Bayldon Walker, Barrister-at-Law, performed the duties of a judge of the Supreme Court. Mr. R. Brett, Master of the Supreme Court and Registrar-General, was granted leave of absence to England, from 29th January to 11th May, during which time Mr. J. A. M'Carthy, Queen's Advocate, acted as Registrar-General, and Mr. W. A. Valantin, Deputy Sheriff, acted as Master of the Supreme Court. Mr. Brett resigned his appointment on 12th August, when the same arrangements were made as those when he was on leave of absence.

Mr. W. M. Huggins, Manager and Coroner of the Eastern District, acted as Police Magistrate and Coroner for the Police District of Freetown, from 28th November to the end of the year, vice Mr. J. Bayldon Walker, invalided to the Islands and subsequently to England.

Police.

Major A. McD. Moore, Inspector General, was on leave of absence to England from 16th June to 23rd December 1891, his duties being performed during that time by Lieutenant Lendy.

Lieutenant E. A. W. Lendy, D.S.O., of the 2nd Battalion the West India Regiment, Captain A. D. Campbell, late 2nd Battalion the Connaught Rangers, and Captain F. P. Cockburn (2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment), Inspector of the Gold Coast Constabulary, were appointed Inspectors of Police respectively from 7th February, 28th March, and 24th November 1891.

Captain Soden's appointment as an Inspector was terminated on the 13th of October.

Prisons Department.

Mr. R. Wade, Keeper of the Gaol in Freetown, who had been invalided to England, from 20th December 1890, retired on a pension, from 1st March 1891. Sub-Inspector N. H. Sawyerr of the Police Force acted as Keeper up to 11th November 1891, when Mr. F. J. Mizon, the newly appointed Keeper of the Gaol, arrived from England and assumed the duties of his office.

Medical Department.

Dr. D. P. Ross, C.M.G., Colonial Surgeon, was granted six months leave to England, from 24th July, and during his absence Dr. W. Renner, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, acted for him, and Dr. J. N. Paris was employed temporarily as Assistant Colonial Surgeon.

11.—PENSIONS.

The following table shows the amounts paid on account of pensions and other retiring allowances during the past five year: —

Year.	Paid in England.	Paid in the Colony.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887 - - -	1,832	693	2,525
1888 - - -	1,832	669	2,501
1889 - - -	1,940	1,164	3,104
1890 - - -	1,743	1,269	3,012
1891 - - -	1,563	1,491	3,054

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

Fifteen new names were added to the pension list in 1891, the principal ones were Mr. R. Wade, 58*l.*, and Mr. M. V. D. Stuart, 196*l.* per annum. Of the five pensioners who died during the year, those deserving of mention were Mr. T. G. Lawson, on the 13th June, who was in receipt of 210*l.* per annum, and Mr. A. B. Martyn, on 22nd December, who was receiving 68*l.* per annum.

The total amount sanctioned as gratuities to retiring public servants, chiefly policemen, who were not entitled to pension on account of the shortness of the period of their services, was 73*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*

12.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

The Consular representative of foreign countries were :—

Denmark.—T. S. Buckley.

France.—G. A. Mondehare.

Germany.—P. Lemberg.

Portugal.—P. Lemberg.

Greece.—A. G. Ceffala.

Italy.—G. B. Zochonis.

Liberia.—A. E. Boyle.

The Netherlands and Spain.—W. Ellis.

Sweden and Norway.—H. Burnett.

United States of America.—B. Bowser.

13.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

A census was taken on 5th April 1891, in such parts of the Colony in which it was found practicable to do so, and the area was the same as that of 1881. The results have been published in a special report.

The following comparative statement shows the population in 1871, 1881 and 1891 :—

Year.	White.		Black.			Total.		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1871 -	76	31	18,455	18,527	36,982	18,531	18,558	37,039
1881 -	237	34	30,964	29,511	60,475	31,201	29,345	60,546
1891 -	191	33	39,684	34,927	74,611	39,875	34,960	74,835

In the census returns for 1891 the various occupations of the inhabitants were distinguished as follows:—

Occupation.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Government employés - - -	1,160	6	1,176
Ministers of religion, members of legal and medical professions - -	112	2	114
Merchants, traders and their clerks -	2,090	9,941	12,031
Farmers, farm labourers and market people - - - -	10,445	6,351	16,796
Grumettas, labourers and house servants	4,910	836	5,746
Fishermen and seamen - - -	3,326	—	3,326
Mechanics, butchers, bakers, &c. -	3,614	13	3,627
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,610	3,557	5,197
Transient traders and strangers -	1,020	599	1,619
School children - - -	7,125	6,944	14,069
Infants - - - - -	2,235	2,323	4,558
No occupation - - -	2,198	4,378	6,576
Total -	39,875	34,960	74,835

The races were divided into white and black. The nationalities of the white population are given in the following table:—

Nationality.	Male.	Female.	Total.
English - - - -	106	14	120
Welsh - - - - -	4	—	4
Scotch - - - - -	7	4	11
Irish - - - - -	22	9	31
American - - - -	5	2	7
French - - - -	24	2	26
German - - - -	2	—	2
Italian - - - -	5	2	7
Swiss - - - - -	6	—	6
Portuguese - - - -	2	—	2
Swedish - - - -	1	—	1
Norwegian - - - -	2	—	2
Greek - - - - -	2	—	2
Spaniard - - - -	1	—	1
Canadian - - - -	1	—	1
Maltese - - - -	1	—	1
Tota. - - -	191	33	224

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

The nationalities of the black inhabitants will be found fully classified in the under-mentioned return :—

Nationality.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Liberated Africans and their descendants	15,002	18,210	33,212
Natives, *i.e.*, children of strange tribes born in Sierra Leone	3,618	3,111	6,729
Mandingoes	1,094	315	1,409
Timanees	4,323	2,751	7,074
Joloffs	75	87	162
Baggas	382	201	583
Mendis	4,690	3,403	8,093
Sherbros	3,824	3,046	6,870
Gallinas	561	497	1,058
Limbas	800	283	1,083
Soosoos	1,554	1,224	2,778
Fulahs	222	150	372
Loccos	483	264	747
Serrakulies	87	47	134
Bulloms	118	102	220
Kroomen	1,088	239	1,327
West Indians	727	136	863
Miscellaneous, *i.e.*, any tribe not herein detailed	1,036	861	1,897
Total	39,684	34,927	74,611

There are more males than females in Sierra Leone, a fact revealed by the census taken in 1881 and again in 1891.

On the 31st December the population of the census area was estimated to be 76,000, and the unenumerated portions of the Colony are supposed to contain 50,000 souls, making an approximate total of 126,000 persons, scattered over an area of about 4,000 square miles.

From the vital statistics furnished by the various district registrars, the total number of births and deaths registered during the past five years was as follows :—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.
1887	1,341	1,413
1888	1,358	1,248
1889	1,250	1,363
1890	1,249	1,531
1891	1,328	1,368

The registration system here is not as perfect as it should be, owing partly to difficulties which are always to be found in partially civilized communities. The untutored native seldom complies with the law on the subject and it is not generally easy to compel him to do so.

The total number of marriages, reckoned from the returns sent in by the different Christian denominations, in the Colony in 1891 was 312.

14.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

The various Christian sects, the number of their places of worship and their adherents in Sierra Leone are shown in the following return :—

Denomination.	Places of Worship.	Members generally attending.
Church of England - - -	55	11,988
Roman Catholic - - -	3	380
Wesleyan - - - -	37	8,360
Free Church Methodist - -	14	2,585
American or Maroon Methodist -	1	250
African M. E. Church of America -	3	720
American Mendi Mission or United Brethren in Christ - -	14	1,032
Huntingdonian - - -	11	1,193
Baptist - - - - -	3	306
Total - -	141	26,814

The census returns for 1891 showed that the number of persons professing Christianity was 41,361.

Mohammedanism is on the increase, the followers of the prophet numbering one tenth of the population.

The Church of England is the only one receiving State aid. All the others are either self-supporting or aided by missionary societies. Only the Bishop of the Anglican Church, the Roman Catholic priests, and the superintendents of the Wesleyan and the Free Church Methodists are Europeans; all the other ministers of religion are Africans.

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

15.—EDUCATION.

The number of schools examined, the number of pupils on the rolls, and the amount of Government grants awarded in the last five years were:—

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.			Government Grants.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
					£
1887 -	61	4,141	4,023	8,164	682
1888 -	67	4,338	4,205	8,543	762
1889 -	77	4,723	4,499	9,222	806
1890 -	73	4,662	4,279	8,941	891
1891 -	71	4,581	4,237	8,818	812

From the foregoing statement, it will be observed with regret that the number of pupils is still on the decrease, the total number in 1891 being less than that in 1889 by 404. The Inspector of Schools in his report for 1891 says:—"There is "even on last year a decrease in both average and ordinary "attendances, there are also fewer presented in the standards, "with, of course, the very probable result of fewer passes. On "the whole I do not see that at present any increase is fore-"shadowed in any way. Whether this be due to (1) migration "to various parts of the Coast or Colony, or (2) due to the many "private adventure schools cropping up, I cannot say."

Technical or industrial education has made no progress. Besides the above, there were, in 1891, 23 elementary schools with 1,592 pupils which were below the Government standard.

The school at the village of Charlotte for liberated African children, which was supported jointly by the Imperial and Colonial Governments, was closed on 31st December.

There are six high schools in Freetown, three for boys and three for girls, with a total attendance of 334 boys and 231 girls, during the year.

Fourah Bay College, on the outskirts of Freetown, belongs to and is supported by the Church Missionary Society, and by being affiliated to the University of Durham, its students are eligible to take degrees in arts, theology, &c.

Two new journals were started during the year, "The Trader" and "Saturday Ho," but the former became defunct before the close of the year. Besides these, there were two weekly newspapers, "The Weekly News" and "The Sierra Leone Times," published in Freetown, and a fortnightly one, "The Early Dawn," at Sherbro.

Imports.

Year.	Value of Imports from			Total Value.	Customs Duty.
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.		
	£	£	£	£	£
1888 - - - -	190,529	1,211	58,407	250,147	43,742
1889 - - -	210,800	1,110	65,871	277,781	49,034
1890 - - - -	295,012	1,627	93,269	389,908	53,810
1891 - - - -	345,031	2,145	106,202	453,378	69,999
1892 - - - -	332,198	4,814	76,105	413,117	69,405

The total value of imports for the year was 413,117*l.*, of these, 302,062*l.* were entered for home consumption and 111,055*l.* warehoused.

The value of imports from the United Kingdom was 332,198*l.*, or four-fifths of the whole.

The decrease of 594*l.* in Customs duty on goods imported, as compared with the previous year, is due to the passing of the Firearms, Ammunition, and Gunpowder Ordinance on 26th March and to Quarantine restrictions. The principal articles imported were cotton goods, spirits, haberdashery, tobacco, and hardware.

Exports.

Year.	Value of Exports to			Total Value.
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	
	£	£	£	£
1888 - - - - -	166,569	17,651	154,823	339,043
1889 - - - - -	131,077	23,992	164,650	319,719
1890 - - - - -	147,436	21,043	180,840	349,319
1891 - - - - -	218,294	32,177	227,185	477,656
1892 - - - - -	195,298	35,245	189,908	420,451

The total value of African produce exported during the year was 304,406*l.*, and that of European goods withdrawn from the warehouse was 116,045*l.*

The decrease in the exports of 1892, as compared with the year 1891, is due to less produce being landed in Freetown through the compulsory diversion of trade from the Colony to foreign neighbouring places, from whence it is shipped direct to Europe.

The "Human Leopard" scare in the Imperi country possibly might have affected the palm kernel and oil industry.

The chief exports were palm kernels, rubber, kola nuts, palm oil, gum, ginger, rice, and hides.

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

Articles produced or manufactured in and exported from the Colony in 1891 were valued at 6,177*l.*, against 5,394*l.* in the previous year.

The chief exports were palm kernels, 157,457*l.*, rubber, 77,738*l.*, kola nuts, 43,004*l.*, specie, 36,231*l.*, palm oil, 14,370*l.*, gum copal, 9,241*l.*, rice, 8,291*l.*, hides, 7,112*l.* The value of exports from the Colony to the United Kingdom in 1891 was four times that to France, five times that to Germany, and 25 times that to the United States of America.

The figures in the foregoing tables afford tangible evidence that the trade of the Colony is expanding, a satisfactory feature in a community in which about one sixth of the resident inhabitants is engaged in trading. There is reason, however, to assume that the large importations of recent years are not altogether the outcome of a *bonâ fide* increased local consumption, so far as the Colony itself is concerned, as nearly one half of the imports find their way into the interior countries, and should more properly be classified as transit trade, the few ports in the Colony being mere commercial depôts, where are landed the merchandise brought by vessels from the different European countries and from America, whose manufactures find a ready market in this part of Western Africa. Therefore, it is decidedly apparent that the stability of the trade of Sierra Leone rests entirely on the pacification of the producing areas which border on the confines of our jurisdiction.

17.—SHIPPING.

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last five years were :—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1887 - - - -	633	174,915	653	185,722	1,286	360,637
1888 - - - -	702	255,330	703	262,351	1,405	517,681
1889 - - - -	724	291,239	726	297,932	1,450	589,171
1890 - - - -	868	342,591	854	336,918	1,722	679,509
1891 - - - -	899	425,853	870	416,670	1,769	842,523

Freetown has deservedly become noted as an important coaling station and as it possesses an admirable and safe harbour, the best in West Africa, a good provision market and a plentiful supply of pure drinking water, it is much frequented by ships, as such supplies cannot be so readily obtained elsewhere on the coast

18.—AGRICULTURE.

There has been no improvement under this head, and I am afraid that this unfortunate state of affairs will continue, as the natives have no ambition in this direction beyond planting their own local vegetables, although the Colony possesses every inducement for the cultivation of cacao, sugar, coffee, nutmegs, and a variety of other tropical plants.

19.—MANUFACTURES, MINES, AND FISHERIES.

No manufactures have been started during the year and no mines exist in the Colony.

20.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The following table gives the number of prisoners committed to and received in the prisons of the Colony during the past five years:—

Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1887 - - - -	904	89	993
1888 - - - -	842	75	925*
1889 - - - -	1,073	64	1,141†
1890 - - - -	745	52	797
1891 - - - -	806	59	865

21.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following return shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Offences.	No. of Persons apprehended.	No. of Summary Convictions.	No. of Supreme Court Convictions.	Acquittals.
1887 - -	1,752	1,956	1,050	106	291‡
1888 - -	1,995	2,327	1,318	66	226‡
1889 - -	2,158	2,487	1,409	66	310‡
1890 - -	1,753	1,973	920	63	345‡
1891 - -	1,914	2,095	1,054	54	355‡

* Including eight juveniles. † Including four juveniles.
‡ Exclusive of cases that fell through for want of prosecution.

There have been more crimes in 1891 than in 1890.

The Queen's Advocate, in his report on the Criminal Statistics Return of 1891, says:—

"I regret to observe that crime is on the increase, the number of reported offences being 1,914, as against 1,753 for the year 1890, or an increase of 8·17 per cent. . . .

"The total number of offenders brought before the inferior courts is 2,095, or 2·8 per cent. of the population of the Colony. Of these, 1,133, or 1·5 per cent., were convicted."

Three cases of murder were committed to the Supreme Court. Larceny was the prevailing offence.

22.—HOSPITALS.

The total number of persons admitted into the various hospitals, and the number of deaths for the past five years were as under:—

Year.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1887	565	102
1888	701	103
1889	702	135
1890	942	169
1891	946	147

23.—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The following comparative table gives the total admissions, discharges and deaths for the last five years:—

Year.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
1887	20	4	7
1888	14	5	9
1889	17	1	10
1890	20	9	3
1891	20	—	14

There is only one asylum in the Colony, and it is situated at Kissy, about three miles from Freetown. The total number of

insane persons in Sierra Leone in 1891 was calculated to be 132, equal to ·173 per cent. of the population.

The Colonial Surgeon, in his annual report for 1891, states: "The public health of the Colony during the year was satisfactory, though there were several cases of 'Influenza' during the last half of the year. The usual types of intermittent and remittent fevers prevailed, as well as other cases of zymotic disease. There were 76 cases of small-pox treated in the hospital, most of which were imported here in the steamers arriving from St. Paul de Loando, and the other cases found their way to Freetown from the interior. Vaccination was carried on in and around Freetown during the latter part of the year in consequence of small-pox prevailing in the country immediately to the north of the Colony. The total number of successful cases performed during the year being 1,596."

24.—SAVING BANKS.

The Treasury Savings Bank, which was established in 1882, still continues to find favour in the sight of the public, the amounts deposited having steadily increased with each succeeding year, notwithstanding the West African Bank.

The following table shows the number of depositors and amount due to them during the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount due Depositors.
		£
1887 - - - -	501	9,330
1888 - - - -	697	11,929
1889 - - - -	904	14,179
1890 - - - -	1,120	16,485
1891 - - - -	1,460	22,590

from which it will be seen that the business is increasing in a most satisfactory manner, so much so that it was being considered in 1891 whether a branch should not be established at Sherbro.

The total amount invested at end of 1891 was 20,215*l.*

The minimum deposit receivable is one shilling, but no depositor is allowed to deposit more than 130*l.* within a year nor to have more than 500*l.*, exclusive of interest, in the bank. Interest is allowed at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum.

25.—GOVERNMENT HOUSES.

Government House, Fort Thornton, Freetown; Heddle's Cottage, on the summit of one of the numerous hills near the city; and the Governor's House at Cape Sierra Leone, are

all in a very bad state of repair, and are more or less unfit for habitation.

26.—RAILWAYS, CANALS, AND ROADS.

There are no railways or inland telegraphs. Canals are quite unnecessary, as the Colony is a network of rivers and creeks, by means of which the internal communication is mainly carried on.

The roads are not so good as they might be, but some are in a fair state of repair, whilst others are anything but what could be desired, especially those leading to the mountain districts.

The absence of good bridges is also a drawback to travelling in many parts of the peninsula.

The construction of a light railway from Freetown to Songo Town and thence to the interior would be beneficial to trade.

27.—POST AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

The total amount of postal matter which passed through the Postal Department during the past four years is shown below, no account having been made for 1887:—

Year.	Number of Letters, Postcards, Parcels, &c. received and sent.
1888	210,581
1889	213,041
1890	234,871
1891	274,117

As regards the inland postal service of the Colony, although some efforts have recently been made for its improvement, and an Ordinance passed in 1890 on the subject, yet it cannot be said to be in perfect working order, but as a scheme is now under consideration it is hoped that the service will soon be placed on a satisfactory basis.

The following table shows the value of money orders received in and sent from the Post Office for the last five years:—

Year.	Received.	Sent.	Total.
	£	£	£
1887	9,885	22,506	32,391
1888	11,296	21,153	32,749
1889	10,117	18,131	28,258
1890	9,617	14,930	24,547
1891	12,415	14,679	27,094

There are no internal telegraphs, hence no statistics furnished. I consider it would be of much utility to the community in general if the principal towns in the districts were placed in telegraphic communication with Freetown, the seat of Government.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In reviewing the past year, there have not been many incidents that might be considered as strikingly remarkable in the annals of Sierra Leone. But a few events have occurred which unquestionably deserve to be recorded.

A reduction from 4*d.* to 2½*d.* per half ounce on postage between the United Kingdom and Sierra Leone came into operation from 1st January.

A syndicate was formed in England in the early portion of the year to construct docks in Freetown, and in August, Mr. Stephens, an engineer, arrived here and made an extensive survey, not only for the docks but also, it is understood, for a light railway from headquarters into the Kwaia district.

The inland postal service of the Colony was made the subject of inquiry by a committee appointed by the Governor in 1891, and the results of their deliberations have been that the postal staff of the Colony should be increased and a new Post Office erected in Freetown.

For the construction of the Congo Free State Railway, large numbers of the labouring classes were employed from Sierra Leone and taken to that State, but on account of the complaints made by them of alleged ill-treatment the matter was brought to the notice of the Government and much interest was taken in the subject by the local press.

The rainfall for the year as taken at the Colonial Hospital, Freetown, was 133·61 inches as against 121·24 inches in 1890.

The delimitation of the northern boundary of the Colony, as settled by the agreement between Great Britain and France, which was signed at Paris in 1889, has been looked forward to since that year, as it was a question of great importance to the Colony.

The boundary commissioner appointed by Great Britain was Captain A. H. Kenney, R.E., and those by France were Monsieur F. Lamadon, Administrator of the "Rivières du Sud," Lieutenant Bransoulié and Docteur Bonnefoy. The French Commissioners arrived in Freetown on 28th November and the British Commissioner on the 2nd December. They embarked from Freetown for Mahaila, the scene of the commencement of their labours, on 15th December.

It is satisfactory to take a retrospect of the progress of events during the past quinquennial period of the history of Sierra Leone as evidenced by the foregoing statistical tables. Some few years ago the Colony was on the verge of bankruptcy, but now, owing

SIERRA LEONE. 1891.

to careful political and financial administration, Sierra Leone has at last, I trust, entered an entirely new era, and will become in the not distant future one of the many prosperous possessions which constitute the British Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. BURNEY MITFORD,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir Francis Fleming, K.C.M.G.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Sierra Leone.

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SIERRA LEONE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 64.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1894.

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1894.

[C.—6857.-46.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other Reports, relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Straits Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	,,
92	Mauritius	,,
93	Labuan	,,
94	British Honduras	,,
95	Lagos	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 96.

SIERRA LEONE.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 64.]

Acting Governor CROOKS to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Freetown, Sierra Leone,
MY LORD MARQUESS, October 21, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, 1892.

1.—TAXES AND DUTIES.

The only change under the head is "The Firearms, Ammunition and Gunpowder Ordinance, 1892," which has caused a considerable decrease in the import duty on arms and ammunition as compared with the previous year. The said Ordinance gives effect to Articles 8 to 10 of the General Act of the Brussels Conference, 1890.

The tariff consists of an *ad valorem* duty of 7½ per cent. and certain specific duties, which are moderate. Articles imported for agricultural, manufacturing, and educational purposes, and coals are exempted from duty.

There is no export duty, nor is there any direct taxation

2.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The total revenue, including the Parliamentary Grant in Aid of the colonial steamer, was 86,866*l.*, showing an increase of 2,266*l.* on the estimated amount, 84,600*l.*

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SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

The following statement compares the estimated and actual receipts for the year 1892 :—

Heads of Receipts.	Amount estimated.	Total Receipts.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated
	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - - - -	67,568	69,410	1,842	—
Port, Harbour, and Light Dues -	3,000	2,906	—	94
Licences, Excise, &c. - - -	4,928	5,956	1,028	—
Fees of Court or Office - - - Payments for Specific Services -	3,807	3,898	91	—
Post Office - - - -	840	955	115	—
Rents of Government Property -	152	256	104	—
Interest - - - -	1,200	1,609	409	—
Miscellaneous Receip - -	135	318	183	—
Land Sales - - - -	70	21	—	49
Parliamentary Grant for Colonial Steamer - - - -	2,900	1,537	—	1,363
Total - - -	84,600	86,866	3,772	1,506

Net increase for 1892, 2,266*l.*

Four-fifths of the revenue is derivable from Customs duties on articles imported into the Colony. The increase in the Customs receipts is due to improved trade; that under "Licences" to larger number of spirit licences issued and a greater sale of Revenue Stamps.

The decrease under the head of "Colonial Steamer" is due to the receipt of only 1,537*l.* of the Parliamentary grant for the year.

Comparative statement of the revenue for years 1891 and 1892 :—

Heads of Receipts.	Year 1891.	Year 1892.	Increase, 1892.	Decrease, 1892.
	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - - - -	70,000	69,410	—	590
Port, Harbour, and Light Dues -	2,998	2,906	—	92
Licences, Excise, &c. - - -	6,202	5,956	—	246
Fees of Court or Office and Reimbursements in aid - - -	4,988	3,898	—	1,090
Post Office - - - -	820	955	135	—
Rents of Government Property -	157	256	99	—
Interest - - - - -	1,078	1,609	531	—
Miscellaneous Receipts - -	417	318	—	99
Land Sales - - - -	225	21	—	204
Parliamentary Grant for Colonial Steamer - - - -	2,984	1,537	—	1,447
Total - -	89,869	86,866	765	3,768

Net decrease for 1892 = 3,003*l.*

The increase in "Interest" is owing to larger investments; the decrease in "Customs" is due to quarantine restrictions and the Arms and Ammunition Ordinance; in "Licences" to fewer Spirit Licences; in "Fees and Reimbursements in Aid" to alterations in Customs hours and discontinuance of aid from Imperial Government to Liberated African Department; in "Land Sales" to fewer sales, and in "Colonial Steamer" to six months' Parliamentary Grant only having been paid within the year.

Expenditure.

The estimated expenditure was 80,608*l.*, and the amount actually expended was 83,852*l.*, showing an excess over the estimates of 3,244*l.*

The following is the comparative table of estimated and actual expenditure for the year 1892:—

Heads of Expenditure.	Amount estimated.	Total Payments.	More than estimated.	Less than estimated.
	£	£	£	£
Charge for Public Debt	5,010	4,966	—	44
Pensions	3,000	2,985	—	15
Governor and Legislature	1,178	919	—	259
Colonial Secretary's Department	1,573	1,515	—	58
Provincial Administration	1,957	1,856	—	101
Native Affairs	4,538	3,832	—	706
Treasury	1,811	1,642	—	169
Customs Department	6,363	5,908	—	455
Audit Department	526	216	—	310
Port and Marine Department	822	712	—	110
Legal Department	5,211	3,592	—	1,619
Police	17,663	15,874	—	1,789
Prisons	3,353	2,861	—	492
Medical Departments	3,037	2,843	—	194
Hospital and Dispensaries	3,175	3,194	19	—
Sanitary	1,218	786	—	432
Ecclesiastical	711	656	—	55
Education	1,721	1,443	—	278
Transport	3,500	7,003	3,503	—
Miscellaneous Services	3,545	4,245	700	—
Post Office	1,950	1,823	—	127
Colonial Surveyor's Department	600	568	—	32
Public Works, Extraordinary	1,496	2,760	1,264	—
Do. Recurrent	3,000	4,602	1,602	—
Colonial Steamer	3,650	7,051	3,401	—
Total	80,608	83,852	10,489	7,245

Net increase for 1892 = 3,244*l.*

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

Comparative statement of the expenditure for years 1891 and 1892 :—

Heads of Expenditure.	Year 1891.	Year 1892.	Increase, 1892.	Decrease, 1892.
	£	£	£	£
Charge for Public Debt - -	13,511	4,966	—	8,545
Pensions - - - - -	3,054	2,985	—	69
Governor and Legislature - -	932	919	—	13
Colonial Secretary's Department -	1,536	1,515	—	21
Provincial Administration - -	1,407	1,856	449	—
Native Affairs - - - -	3,683	3,832	149	—
Treasury - - - - -	1,541	1,642	101	—
Customs Department - - -	6,211	5,908	—	303
Audit Department - - -	181	216	35	—
Port and Marine Department -	656	712	56	—
Legal Department - - -	3,568	3,592	24	—
Police - - - - -	12,839	15,874	3,035	—
Prisons - - - - -	2,945	2,861	—	84
Medical Departments - - -	2,735	2,843	108	—
Hospitals and Dispensaries - -	3,312	3,194	—	118
Sanitary - - - - -	790	786	—	4
Ecclesiastica - - - -	682	656	—	26
Education - - - -	1,749	1,443	—	306
Transport - - - -	2,656	7,003	4,347	—
Miscellaneous Services - -	4,013	4,245	232	—
Post Office - - - -	1,382	1,823	441	—
Colonial Surveyor's Department -	516	568	52	—
Public Works, Extraordinary -	1,921	2,760	839	—
Do. Recurrent - -	3,026	4,602	1,576	—
Colonial Steamer - - -	3,119	7,051	3,932	—
Total - - -	77,965	83,852	15,376	9,489

Net increase for 1892 = 5,887*l.*

The excess of expenditure under "Transport" is owing to an expedition to Tambi, a mission to Falaba, and the Anglo-French Boundary Commission. Under "Miscellaneous Services" the excess is due to the extension of Inland Postal Service, printing telegrams, Census taking, and Customs seizures. Under "Public Works" the excess is due to repairs to Government House, Bonded Warehouse, and the Public Buildings generally, and the erection of new Customs Shed and Post Office in Freetown.

Under "Colonial Steamer" the excess is due to the vessel having been sent to England for extensive repairs.

The apparent excess under "Provincial Administration" is due to the office of manager, Sherbro district, having been filled up during the year.

Under "Police" the increase is due to the strength of the force having been increased.

Under "Post Office" the increase is due to the extension of postal system.

The decrease of expenditure under "Public Debt" is due to the payment in October 1891 of the balance, 8,000*l.*, of the loan from Imperial Government in 1877, and the excess, 454*l.*, over Imperial Grant for Mission to Almami Samadu in 1888.

The decrease under "Customs" is due to saving on salary of Collector until he took up his appointment on the termination of his leave.

The decrease under "Education" is due to the closing of Charlotte School for Liberated African Children on the 31st December 1891 and the death at Lagos, on 15th December 1892, of the Reverend Mr. Sunter, M.A., Inspector of Schools.

The revenue and expenditure for the past five years were as under:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1888	63,035	63,288
1889	70,836	66,771
1890	73,708	63,056
1891	89,869	77,965
1892	86,866	83,852

The decrease in revenue and also the increase in expenditure for 1892, as compared with year 1891, are fully accounted for above.

3.—Assets and Liabilities.

The financial position of the Colony for the past five years may be seen from the following statement:—

Year.	Excess of Assets.	Excess of Liabilities.
	£	£
1888	—	40,693
1889	—	33,101
1890	—	19,374
1891	1,160	—
1892	10,197	—

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

From the foregoing it will be observed that the Colony at the close of the year was in a better position by 9,037*l* than at the same period in 1891.

4.—PUBLIC DEBT.

This remains the same as at the close of the year 1891, viz., 50,000*l*., raised in 1871–73 for constructing Public Works, to be repaid in 1896–98.

The sinking fund for its redemption amounted to 34,118*l*. on 31st December 1892. When the liabilities are paid off in 1898, the Colony will be better off by 5,010*l*. per annum, the sum now set apart for payment of Sinking Fund and Interest on Debentures. This annual payment is a great drain, and although the Colony is at present in a position to redeem the Bonds, there is little likelihood that the holders would sell off at less than par, as they are guaranteed interest from Government Funds at the rate of 6*l*. per cent.

5.—MUNICIPALITY.

No municipality or any local body invested with authority exists in the Colony, but "An Ordinance to create the Town of "Freetown a Municipal City and to incorporate the inhabitants "thereof" was introduced into the Legislative Council and read a first time on the 25th August, a second time 13th September, and was under the consideration of the Committee of the Council during the remainder of the year. It passed the Council on 21st February of the present year, and the Right Honourable the Secretary of State has signified that Her Majesty will not be advised to exercise her power of disallowance in respect thereof.

The Council is to consist of a Mayor and 15 Councillors, three of whom are to be appointed by the Governor and Executive Council; the others are to be elected.

As stated in my report on the Blue Book for 1890, "there is no "doubt that municipal government will be a great boon to Free-"town by encouraging the community to interest themselves in "local matters, instead of relying as at present upon the Executive "Government to do everything, even to lighting the streets, "supplying water, and keeping the roads and markets in repair."

Freetown contains over 30,000 inhabitants.

6.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

There is no contribution from the Colony, which is an important Co aling station, for the maintenance of the Military Establishment the entire expenditure of 67,368*l*. (local) being borne by the Imperial Government.

The garrison consists of a battalion of the West India Regiment, a European detachment of the Royal Artillery, Native Battery of West African Artillery, and a Native detachment of Fortress Engineers.

The troops receive an allowance, which amounted this year to 669*l.*, as compensation for Customs duties payable by them.

There is no Militia force. The Sierra Leone Royal Militia was disbanded in 1863, and since then no similar corps has been organised.

The Armed Police Force for frontier work consists of five European officers and 340 Native sub-officers and privates.

7.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure on Public Works, repairs to buildings, roads streets and bridges for the past five years was as under :—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1888	1,351
1889	1,725
1890	1,972
1891	4,947
1892	7,362

No public work of magnitude has been undertaken, but the increased expenditure was much needed, owing to the dilapidated condition of most of the public buildings. A new Post Office and Customs Shed were erected during the year, extensive repairs were effected at Government House, No. 2 Bonded Warehouse and the Kissy Lazaretto, and general repairs to the bridges in the districts and the buildings were carried out.

8.—LEGISLATION.

The under-mentioned Ordinances were passed during the year :—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1881."

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to amend the Frontier Police Ordinance, 1890.

No. 3.—An Ordinance to regulate the importation into and the Storage and Disposal of Firearms, Ammunition, and Gunpowder in the Colony of Sierra Leone.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1881."

No. 5.—An Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance intituled "An "Ordinance to amend 'The Stamp Duty Ordinance, 1884'."

No. 6.—A Ordinance to legalise certain payments made in the year 1891 beyond the expenditure authorised by law.

No. 7.—An Ordinance to further amend "The Sierra Leone Sanitary Ordinance, 1879."

No. 8.—An Ordinance to regulate the law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to provide for the discipline of Members of the Frontier Police Force of the Colony of Sierra Leone while receiving instruction in the United Kingdom.

No. 10.—An Ordinance to amend the Firearms, Ammunition, and Gunpowder Ordinance, 1892 (No. 3).

No. 11.—An Ordinance to repeal Section IV. of "Sierra Leone Sanitary Ordinance, 1879," and make other provisions in lieu thereof.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to repeal Section I. of "The Sierra Leone Sanitary Amendment Ordinance, 1884" (No. 13 of 1884), and make other provision in lieu thereof.

No. 13.—An Ordinance to regulate the dispensing and sale of Drugs and Poisons in the Colony.

No. 14.—An Ordinance to provide for the service of the Colony of Sierra Leone for the year 1893.

9.—COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

Executive Council.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Saunders and Colonel A. B. Ellis, of the West India Regiment, respectively became members on assuming command of the troops in the Colony, at different periods.

Dr. D. P. Ross, C.M.G., Colonial Surgeon, was appointed an additional Member of Council, and took the oaths of office on 2nd March.

Mr. A. Sharood as Acting Chief Justice, Mr. S. M. Bennett as Acting Colonial Treasurer, and Mr. J. B. Walker as Acting Queen's Advocate, also became Members on appointment to their respective offices.

Mr. S. Lewis, Barrister-at-Law, unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, was appointed an extraordinary Member for a short time.

Legislative Council.

The Members of the Executive Council being also Members of the Legislative Council, the foregoing changes apply equally to this Board. Mr. D. Jarrett was provisionally appointed an unofficial Member on 25th June. Mr. J. B. Walker, on ceasing to act as Queen's Advocate on the return of Mr. J. A. M'Carthy from leave, was on 22nd September appointed an extraordinary Member of the Council, in order to continue his charge of the Municipality Bill.

Mr. S. Boyle was ill the whole of the year, and Mr. T. J Sawyerr was absent on leave from March to the end of the year.

Board of Education.

The changes among Members of the Executive Council apply to this Board also.

The Reverend Metcalf Sunter, M.A., Inspector of Schools, died at Lagos on 15th December 1892. The deceased arrived in the Colony at the close of the year 1870 as principal of the Fourah Bay College, in which capacity he continued till December 1882, when he resigned to accept the appointment of Inspector of Schools for the West African Colonies. He was sometime Acting Colonial Chaplain.

During the absence on leave to England of Reverends D. Moore and W. Vivian, unofficial Members, the Reverends E. Leversuch and D. T. James were appointed to be acting Members in their stead respectively.

10.—CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Governor and Legislature.

Major J. J. Crooks, Colonial Secretary, administered the Government until 21st January, when he proceeded to England after two years' residential service. Sir William H. Quayle Jones, Chief Justice, administered the Government from 21st January to 16th May, when Sir Francis Fleming, K.C.M.G., the newly appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief, arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government. Captain C. H. Donovan, Army Service Corps, performed the duties of aide-de-camp from 21st January to 15th May, and Mr. E. J. Vavasour, that of Private Secretary from 16th May to end of the year.

Mr. J. W. Lewis, clerk of Legislative Council, was on leave of absence from 24th July to 23rd October, and Mr. T. Taylor acted for him.

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

Colonial Secretariat.

Major J. J. Crooks, Colonial Secretary, was on leave of absence from 21st January to 8th October, and during his absence Mr. C. B. Mitford, Colonial Treasurer, acted as Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Treasury.

Mr. C. B. Mitford, the Colonial Treasurer, was on leave of absence from 8th October, and during his absence Mr. S. M. Bennett, Assistant Colonial Treasurer, acted as Colonial Treasurer.

Customs Department.

Mr. E. Faulkner, Assistant Colonial Secretary, acted as Collector of Customs until the return from leave of absence, 28th June, of Mr. Elliott, the Collector.

Legal Departments.

The Chief Justice, Sir W. H. Quayle Jones, administered the Government from 21st January to 15th May, and was on leave of absence from 23rd July to the end of the year.

Mr. A. Sharood arrived in the Colony 6th January, and assumed the duties of his office as Master of Supreme Court and Registrar General. He performed the duties of Deputy Judge from February to August and those of Chief Justice from the latter date to the end of the year.

Mr. W A. Valantin, Clerk to Chief Justice, acted as Master of Supreme Court from 1st to 5th January and 4th February to 31st December.

Mr. J. A. M'Carthy, Queen's Advocate, acted as Registrar General, 1st to 5th January and 30th January to 16th May. He was on leave of absence from 6th June to 20th September.

Mr. J. B. Walker, Police Magistrate, acted as Queen's Advocate from 7th June to 19th September.

Mr. W. M. Huggins, Manager of the Eastern District, acted as Police Magistrate and Coroner for the police district of Freetown, 1st January to 29th March. Mr. J. B. Walker returned from leave of absence 30th March.

Mr. A. Sharood, Master of Supreme Court, acted as Police Magistrate, 7th June to 4th August.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Saunders, the West India Regiment, acted as Police Magistrate from 5th August to 29th September.

Police.

Major A. McDonnell Moore, Inspector General of Police, left the Colony 6th September on appointment as Inspector General of Police, Mauritius.

Captain E. A. W. Lendy, D.S.O., an Inspector of Police, was appointed Inspector General 8th December, vice Major Moore.

Mr. S. E. Johns arrived in the Colony 18th January, on appointment as Inspector of Police, and returned to England 26th December.

Prisons Department.

Mr. F. J. Mizon, Keeper of the Gaol, died on 6th February from influenza and hyperpyrexia after a very short illness. He had served only three months in the Colony.

Medical Department.

Dr. D. P. Ross, C.M.G., the Colonial Surgeon, was on leave of absence to 23rd February, and during his absence Dr. W. Renner, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, acted as Colonial Surgeon.

Dr. W. Renner was absent on leave from 16th June to 15th December.

Dr. J. N. Paris acted as an Assistant Colonial Surgeon during the absence on leave of Drs. Ross and Renner respectively.

Ecclesiastical Department.

Reverend J. E. Taylor, Assistant Colonial Chaplain, died of influenza and double pneumonia at Freetown on 11th February, after a service of six years. Reverend S. Spain, B.A., was appointed Acting Assistant Colonial Chaplain on 19th February, vice Reverend J. E. Taylor, deceased, and was on the 30th March appointed Colonial Chaplain by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State.

11.—PENSIONS.

The following table shows the amounts paid on account of pensions and other retiring allowances during the past five years:—

Year.	Paid in England.	Paid in the Colony.	Total.
	£	£	£
1888 - - -	1,832	669	2,501
1889 - - -	1,940	1,164	3,104
1890 - - -	1,743	1,269	3,012
1891 - - -	1,563	1,491	3,054
1892 - - -	1,633	1,352	2,985

Seven names were added to the pension list in 1892 amount 62*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, and gratuities sanctioned, chiefly to Police Constables, amounting to 66*l.*

The list was reduced by the death of the following persons receiving the amount specified against their names:—

	£	s.
Mrs. Smyth (Widow of Colonial Secretary) -	100	0
M. V. D. Stuart (Collector of Customs) - -	180	0
W. S. Davies (Warehouseman, Customs) - -	22	10
W. L. Dawson (Dispenser, Medical Department) -	9	4
S. J. Thomas (Under Gaoler) - - -	52	0
A. O. Walker (Overseer of Labourers, &c., Sherbro)	5	0

Mrs. Smyth was in receipt of pension for 32 years, and Mr. Stuart nine months only.

12.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

France and the United States of America were represented by Consuls from their respective Governments.

Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy, Liberia, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Norway, were represented by Trading Consular Officers.

13.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

A census was taken on 5th April 1891 in such parts of the Colony in which it was found practicable to do so, and the area was the same as that of 1881. The results have been published in a special report.

The following comparative statement shows the population in 1871, 1881, and 1891:—

Year.	White.		Black.			Total.		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1871 -	76	31	18,455	18,527	36,982	18,531	18,558	37,039
1881 -	237	34	30,964	29,511	60,475	31,202	29,345	60,546
1891 -	191	33	39,684	34,927	74,611	39,875	34,960	74,835

In the census returns for 1891 the various occupations of the inhabitants were distinguished as follows:—

Occupation.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Government employés - - -	1,160	16	1,176
Ministers of religion, members of legal and medical professions - -	112	2	114
Merchants, traders and their clerks -	2,090	9,941	12,031
Farmers, farm labourers and market people - - - - -	10,445	6,351	16,796
Grumettas, labourers and house servants	4,910	836	5,746
Fishermen and seamen - - -	3,326	—	3,326
Mechanics, butchers, bakers, &c. -	3,614	13	3,627
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,640	3,557	5,197
Transient traders and strangers -	1,020	599	1,619
School children - - -	7,125	6,944	14,069
Infants - - - - -	2,235	2,323	4,558
No occupation - - - -	2,198	4,378	6,576
Total - -	39,875	34,960	74,835

The races were divided into white and black. The nationalities of the white population are given in the following table:—

Nationality.	Male.	Female.	Total.
English - - - -	106	14	120
Welsh - - - - -	4	—	4
Scotch - - - - -	7	4	11
Irish - - - - -	22	9	31
American - - - -	5	2	7
French - - - - -	24	2	26
German - - - -	2	—	2
Italian - - - - -	5	2	7
Swiss - - - - -	6	—	6
Portuguese - - - -	2	—	2
Swedish - - - -	1	—	1
Norwegian - - - -	2	—	2
Greek - - - - -	2	—	2
Spaniard - - - -	1	—	1
Canadian - - - -	1	—	1
Maltese - - - -	1	—	1
Total - - -	191	33	224

The nationalities of the black inhabitants will be found fully classified in the under-mentioned return :—

Nationality.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Liberated Africans and their descendants	15,002	18,210	33,212
Natives, *i.e.*, children of strange tribes born in Sierra Leone - - -	3,618	3,111	6,729
Mandingoes - - - - -	1,094	315	1,409
Timanees - - - - -	4,323	2,751	7,074
Joloffs - - - - - -	75	87	162
Baggas - - - - - -	382	201	583
Mendis - - - - - -	4,690	3,403	8,093
Sherbros - - - - -	3,824	3,046	6,870
Gallinas - - - - -	561	497	1,058
Limbas - - - - -	800	283	1,083
Soosoos - - - - -	1,554	1,224	2,778
Fulahs - - - - - -	222	150	372
Loccos - - - - - -	483	264	747
Serrakulies - - - - -	87	47	134
Bulloms - - - - -	118	102	220
Kroomen - - - - -	1,088	239	1,327
West Indians - - - - -	727	136	863
Miscellaneous, *i.e.*, any tribe not herein detailed - - - -	1,036	861	1,897
Total - - -	39,684	34,927	74,611

From the vital statistics furnished by the various district registrars, the total number of births and deaths registered during the past five years was as follows :—

Year.	Births.	Deaths.
1888 - - - -	1,358	1,248
1889 - - - -	1,250	1,363
1890 - - - -	1,249	1,531
1891 - - - -	1,328	1,368
1892 - - - -	1,210	1,413

The excess (203) of registered deaths over births is principally in Freetown. The Colonial Surgeon is unable to account for this excess beyond stating that it may be due to quackery and country medicine, judging from the large number (577) of uncertified deaths.

The insanitary domestic arrangements of Freetown no doubt contribute to the death-rate, and the registration system, so far as births are concerned, is, on account of local circumstances,

defective. In the earlier years of Sierra Leone the colonists underwent great privations, which, according to medical reports, would be sufficient to cause disease even in the present day. It is said that the native, after adopting European habits and clothing, becomes more liable to disease and early death than while he remained in his original state.

The total number of marriages celebrated in the Colony by the different Christian denominations in 1892 was 325.

14.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

The various Christian sects, the number of their places of worship and their adherents in Sierra Leone are shown in the following return :—

Denomination.	Places of Worship.	Members generally attending.
Church of England - - -	57	Returns incomplete, only 25,290 shown.
Roman Catholic - - -	2	
Wesleyan - - - -	36	
Free Church Methodist - -	12	
American or Maroon Methodist -	1	
African M. E. Church of America -	3	
American Mendi Mission or United Brethren in Christ - -	7	
Huntingdonian - - -	9	
Baptist - - - -	3	
Total - -	130	

The Census Returns for 1891 showed that the number of persons professing Christianity was 41,361.

The Church of England is the only one receiving State aid. All the others are either self-supporting or aided by missionary societies. Only the Bishop of the Anglican Church, the Roman Catholic priests, and the superintendents of the Wesleyan and the Free Church Methodists are European; all the other ministers of religion are Africans.

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

15.—EDUCATION.

The number of schools examined, the number of pupils on the rolls, and the amount of Government grants awarded in the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.			Government Grants.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
					£
1888 -	67	4,338	4,205	8,543	762
1889 -	77	4,723	4,499	9,222	806
1890 -	73	4,662	4,279	8,941	891
1891 -	71	4,581	4,237	8,818	812
1892 -	72	4,382	4,144	8,526	711

The Inspector of Schools in his report for 1892 says:—"This "year's figures, as compared with last year's, show a decrease of "292. This may, in some degree, be accounted for by the "increase of "Adventure Schools," many of which have attained "fairly considerable proportions and seem, some of them, to be "inclined to ask for Government aid; at any rate, these seem to "have drawn many from the Elementary Schools."

The Inspector points out that the felt want of the Colony is industrial teaching.

There are six high schools in Freetown, three for boys and three for girls, with a total attendance during the year under review of 308 boys and 192 girls.

Fourah Bay College, on the outskirts of Freetown, belongs to and is supported by the Church Missionary Society, and by being affiliated to the University of Durham, its students are eligible to take degrees in arts, theology, &c.

Two weekly newspapers were published in Freetown, and a fortnightly one at Sherbro.

16.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The under-mentioned tables give the total value and the direction of the trade of the Colony and the Customs duty realised during the last five years.

Imports.

Year.	Value of Imports from			Total Value.	Customs Duty.
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.		
	£	£	£	£	£
1888 - - - -	190,529	1,211	58,407	250,147	43,742
1889 - - -	210,800	1,110	65,871	277,781	49,034
1890 - - - -	295,012	1,627	93,269	389,908	53,810
1891 - - - -	345,031	2,145	106,202	453,378	69,999
1892 - - - -	332,198	4,814	76,105	413,117	69,405

The total value of imports for the year was 413,117*l.*, of these, 302,062*l.* were entered for home consumption and 111,055*l.* warehoused.

The value of imports from the United Kingdom was 332,198*l.*, or four-fifths of the whole.

The decrease of 594*l.* in Customs duty on goods imported, as compared with the previous year, is due to the passing of the Firearms, Ammunition, and Gunpowder Ordinance on 26th March and to Quarantine restrictions. The principal articles imported were cotton goods, spirits, haberdashery, tobacco, and hardware.

Exports.

Year.	Value of Exports to			Total Value.
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	
	£	£	£	£
1888 - - - - -	166,569	17,651	154,823	339,043
1889 - - - - -	131,077	23,992	164,650	319,719
1890 - - - - -	147,436	21,043	180,840	349,319
1891 - - - - -	218,294	32,177	227,185	477,656
1892 - - - - -	195,298	35,245	189,908	420,451

The total value of African produce exported during the year was 304,406*l.*, and that of European goods withdrawn from the warehouse was 116,045*l.*

The decrease in the exports of 1892, as compared with the year 1891, is due to less produce being landed in Freetown through the compulsory diversion of trade from the Colony to foreign neighbouring places, from whence it is shipped direct to Europe.

The "Human Leopard" scare in the Imperi country possibly might have affected the palm kernel and oil industry.

The chief exports were palm kernels, rubber, kola nuts, palm oil, gum, ginger, rice, and hides.

17.—SHIPPING.

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last five years were :—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1888 - - -	702	255,330	703	262,351	1,405	517,681
1889 - - - -	724	291,239	726	297,932	1,450	589,171
1890 - - - -	868	342,591	854	336,918	1,722	679,509
1891 - - - -	899	425,853	870	416,670	1,769	842,523
1892 - - - -	767	398,146	771	402,549	1,538	800,695

The falling off in shipping for 1892, as compared with the year 1891, is due to fewer vessels calling at Freetown for coals. Only two steamers of the "Prince" line entered the port during the year. In 1891 there were 24. The Quarantine restrictions were in force from 2nd September to 30th November; 43 steamers were placed in Quarantine during the year and 15 persons were detained in the Lazaretto.

The first commercial or cargo steamer which called at this port was in 1852, and shortly after two steamers called monthly from England. Now six steamers sail from Liverpool every month for West Africa, besides others from Bordeaux, Hamburg, Havre, Lisbon, and Marseilles.

18.—AGRICULTURE.

There has been no marked improvement under this head, and no land was purchased during the year.

A scheme, however, for the establishment of an Agricultural College which had been drawn up by Mr. G. F. Scott Elliot, who acted as botanist to the Boundary Commission, was laid before the Board of Education and the Legislative Council respectively in the early part of this year, and it was urged that if the finances of the Colony were sufficiently encouraging the sum of 380*l.* necessary to carry out the work for the first year should be duly provided in the estimates for 1894.

The site suggested lies on the hillside between Hastings and Charlotte.

There is no doubt that with time and patience, the land of the country could be made to yield very valuable products. Hitherto commerce has been the only means whereby any real effort has been made to enrich the Colony.

19.—MANUFACTURES, MINES, AND FACTORIES.

None under this head.

20.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The following table gives the number of prisoners committed to and received in the prisons of the Colony during the past five years:—

Year.	Male.	Female.	Juveniles.	Total.
1888 - -	842	75	8	925
1889 - -	1,073	64	4	1,141
1890 - -	745	52	—	797
1891 -	806	59	—	865
1892 -	706	37	9	752

21.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following return shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last five years:—

Year.	No. of Offences.	No. of Persons apprehended.	No. of Summary Convictions.	No. of Supreme Court Convictions.	Acquittals.
1888 - -	1,995	2,327	1,318	66	226*
1889 - -	2,158	2,487	1,409	66	316*
1890 - -	1,753	1,973	920	63	345*
1891 - -	1,914	2,095	1,054	54	355*
1892 - -	1,695	1,945	928	62	433*

*Exclusive of cases that fell through for want of prosecution.

The Queen's Advocate, in his report on the Criminal Statistics Returns of 1892, says:—

"The returns for the year show a general diminution of crime in the Colony.

"The number of 'offences reported' is the lowest number for the past three years and may be due either to the vigilance or laxity of the police."

During the year eight persons were indicted for murder; of these four were convicted of the capital offence, one of manslaughter and three acquitted. The extreme penalty of the law was not carried out in respect of one of the offenders, whose sentence was commuted by the Governor-in-Council to life imprisonment.

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

22.—HOSPITALS.

The total number of persons admitted into the various hospitals and the number of deaths for the past five years were as under:—

Year.	Admissions.	Deaths.
1888 - - - -	701	103
1889 - - - -	702	135
1890 - - - -	942	169
1891 - - - -	946	147
1892 - - - -	1,188	164

The Colonial Surgeon in his annual report for 1892 states "The public health of the Colony was fairly satisfactory during "the year, especially among the European residents, and it is to be "remarked that the number of resident European women in Free-"town this year far exceeded that of previous years. The usual "malarial fevers prevailed and bowel complaints were common. "Very few cases of small-pox occurred (only 20)."

The 12 deaths registered among the Europeans are explained as follows:—

4 cases landed for burial from steamers in transit.
6 „ climatic fever, including three from the military.
1 „ influenza.
1 „ from effects of intemperance.

During the last half of the year, 43 cases of chicken-pox and 64 cases of Beri Beri appeared in the Gaol Hospital, Freetown, two cases of the latter proving fatal.

23.—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The following comparative table gives the total admissions, discharges and deaths for the last five years:—

Year.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
1888 - - - -	14	5	9
1889 - - - -	17	1	10
1890 - - - -	20	9	3
1891 - - - -	20	—	14
1892 - - - -	33	14	12

There is only one asylum in the Colony, and it receives lunatics from the Colonies of Gambia and Lagos as well. The building is situated at Kissy, about three miles from Freetown. The Medical Officer in his report for the year states that "the inmates "continue to enjoy themselves as hitherto, some find pleasure in "gardening, some in singing and composing songs, some in "drawing caricatures on the gravel, others in carrying on lively "and incessant conversations and arguments."

There were 86 inmates in the asylum at the end of the year.

24.—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Besides the Government hospitals and asylum there are no almshouses or private charitable institutions in the Colony, excepting the Princess Christian Hospital, founded at the instance of Bishop Ingham and his wife, which is situated in Fourah Bay Road, on the grounds of Bishopscourt. Dr. Jackson is the sole medical officer in charge, assisted by three trained resident European nurses, and the hospital is under the management of a committee.

The Colonial Government votes 400*l.* annually towards the relief of the poor generally and the grant is distributed monthly by the Charity Commissioners.

25.—SAVINGS BANK.

The Treasury Savings Bank was established in January 1882. The number of depositors at the end of that year was 44. That its safety and convenience are much appreciated by the people is evident from the following table, which gives the number of depositors and amount due to them in the past five years:—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount due to Depositors.
		£
1888 - - - -	697	11,929
1889 - - - -	904	14,179
1890 - - - -	1,120	16,485
1891 - - - -	1,460	22,590
1892 - - - -	1,729	26,817

Deposits are received from 1*s.* upwards, but no individual is allowed to deposit more than 130*l.* to his own account within a year, nor to have more than 500*l.*, exclusive of interest, in the bank.

The rate of interest is 2½ per cent. per annum, and the funds of the bank are invested in Government security.

A branch was opened at Bonthe, Sherbro', in July 1892.

26.—GOVERNMENT HOUSES.

Government House, Fort Thornton, Freetown, the residence of the Governor, is not in that condition in which it should be, but in all probability it may be required for military purposes ere long, and then it will be a favourable opportunity for erecting a suitable building.

Government House at Cape Sierra Leone, the Governor's sanitarium, is in a fair state of repair, but insufficiently furnished.

Heddle's Cottage, a sanitarium for officials on the hills near the city, is also in a fair state of repair.

27.—RAILWAYS, CANALS, ROADS, &c.

There are no railways or inland telegraphs in the Colony. The roads are bad, but steps will be taken to remedy this on the establishment of a municipality.

28.—POST AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

The total amount of postal matter which passed through the Postal Department during the past five years is shown below.

Year.	Number of Letters, Post Cards, Parcels, &c. received and sent.
1888	210,581
1889	213,041
1890	234,871
1891	274,117
1892	302,228

The following table shows the value of money orders received in and sent from the Post Office for the last five years :—

Year.	Received.	Sent.	Total.
	£	£	£
1888	11,296	21,153	32,749
1889	10,117	18,131	28,258
1890	9,617	14,930	24,547
1891	12,415	14,679	27,094
1892	7,779	25,597	33,396

General Remarks.

The general condition of the Colony may be regarded as satisfactory.

The people are progressive, loyal and contented. The treaty Chiefs continue to be on friendly terms with the Government.

Extension of Colony.

Thirty years ago the Colony consisted of the peninsula only, with an area of 300 square miles. In 1862, British Kwaia and Sherbro, were added; in 1879, further territory in the Skarcies River was acquired, and in 1882 the seaboard as far as the Mannah River was annexed, so that the area of the Colony is now about 4,000 square miles. The Frontier Police keep watch within the British sphere of influence as far as Falaba, in the Soolimah country, some 200 miles N.E. of the peninsula.

Trade.

Statements are made from time to time that the trade of the Colony is diminishing, but these are not borne out by the Customs Returns. The amounts for 1892, it is true, fell short of those of the previous year, but 1891 was an exceptionally good year for Customs revenue, due in a great measure to the large importation of firearms and ammunition.

The fact is, the trade of Sierra Leone is not as it used to be. Much of the trade has fallen into the hands of natives and fortunes are far more hardly earned now than formerly.

The climate will always be a bar to extensive European enterprise, if it is to be conducted under European superintendence. Native traders hold their own, and they are not likely to suffer by the advent of the white man, as in other countries.

Chamber of Commerce.

A Chamber of Commerce for Sierra Leone, which, if properly managed, should be a useful medium between the Governor and the governed, was established in Freetown in June.

Monrovia.

In pursuance of instructions, the Administrator proceeded to Monrovia in the colonial steamer "Countess of Derby," on 1st January, accompanied by the Honourable J. A. M'Carthy, Queen's Advocate, to convey to the new President of the Republic of Liberia the congratulations of Her Majesty's Government upon his inauguration. The President expressed his great pleasure at this complimentary mission as a further proof of the deep interest taken by Her Majesty's Government and of its sympathy with the Republic. The Administrator and his suite were most cordially received and entertained in Liberia's capital, and I have every reason to believe that the visit will have a good effect in bringing the Republic into closer union with this Colony.

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

Chief Justice Knighted.

Her Majesty was graciously pleased to confer upon the Chief Justice, Mr. W. H. Quayle Jones, the dignity of a Knight Bachelor. The intelligence was received here with much satisfaction by the officers of the Government, the members of the Bar, and the public generally.

Sir W. H. Quayle Jones is the first West African Judge who has been the recipient of such high honour whilst in office.

Expedition to Tambi.

West Africa is seldom free from intertribal wars, and the Colony of Sierra Leone may be said to have had its own share in "little wars" during the past decade.

In April 1891, in consequence of disquieting rumours which reached the Government with regard to affairs in the Upper Sandah district, the Inspector General of Police was ordered to make a demonstration with the Frontier Police Force in that country, but not to resort to arms, excepting it was absolutely necessary.

In May the Inspector General of Police sent in a report that in attempting to visit Tambi stockade, belonging to the allies of one Carimoo, a notorious freebooter, the police were fired at by warboys and one constable killed and two officers and three constables wounded. It was then decided that as soon as possible after the cessation of the rains, a sufficient force should be sent to disperse the warboys. On 14th March 1892 a force of police, consisting of four officers and 150 men were despatched, under Major Moore, Inspector General, on a punitive expedition to Tambi. The police endeavoured to take Tambi by assault, but failed to do so and had to retire. In the attack Captain W. H. Robinson, R.E., and one constable were killed, and four officers and 21 police were wounded.

It was determined forthwith to despatch a military expedition to Tambi, and a force consisting of 25 officers and 518 non-commissioned officers and men, under Colonel A. B. Ellis, left Freetown on 30th March. They were joined by four officers and 126 non-commissioned officers and men of Frontier Police and about 380 Native Contingent.

On 7th April, Tambi, which was defended by a strong stockade, outside which, at distances of about 12 and 30 feet respectively, were two war fences, was attacked at about 10 a.m. and was carried by 11.30 a.m.

The casualties were, Native Contingent, 5 killed and 32 wounded, Royal Engineers 1, and West India Regiment 8 men wounded. It was difficult to estimate the loss of the enemy.

The force started on the return journey on 8th April, and arrived in Freetown 15th April.

Imperi District.

The barbarous and inhuman custom of Cannibalism, under the guise of what is commonly called "Tongo Play," has considerably diminished in the Imperi District.

Colonial Steamer.

The colonial steamer "Countess of Derby" left Freetown for England on 9th May to undergo extensive repairs, and returned 10th October. The cost of repairs was 4,000*l.*, defrayed by the Colony.

Rainfall.

The rainfall for the year, as taken at the Colonial Hospital, Freetown, was 145·78 inches, as against 133·61 in 1891.

A new Gaol.

The question of the erection of a new gaol for Freetown has been under consideration for some years, but owing to the financial condition of the Colony it has been impossible to take any steps in that direction. When the new prison is built the separate system will be introduced, in order to render punishment more effective.

The erection of a gaol at any distance from Freetown would cause much inconvenience. It has been decided to enlarge the present gaol buildings, and it is hoped that the necessary work will be commenced at the cessation of the rains or early next year.

Fire at Kissy Road.

A fire occurred at Kissy Road on the night of the 16th August, by which property amounting to over 1,300*l.* was destroyed.

The Strike of Labourers.

The first systematic strike in the history of the Colony of the labouring classes took place in the month of November. The cause arose from the Royal Engineer Department informing the labourers who were employed in the Fortification Works that only 9*d.* a day would be paid instead of 1s. This reduction was a disappointment to the men and they proceeded to intimidate labourers employed in mercantile firms. About 800 men having riotously assembled in the streets it became necessary for the Government to take measures for preventing intimidation and breaches of the peace. Certain provisions of the Public Order Ordinance No. 4 of 1888 were accordingly put into force and about 200 special constables sworn in. These precautions had the desired effect.

Drainage of Freetown.

Sanitary improvement of Freetown being of great interest to the community in general, it has been a subject for consideration whether, so far as Freetown is concerned, the expense should be paid for out of funds raised for that purpose or out of the general revenue. It was decided that the inhabitants of

SIERRA LEONE. 1892.

Freetown should be invited to establish a system of Municipal Government, so as to undertake the sanitary improvement of the place and follow the example of all civilised communities in taxing themselves to meet local necessities in the way of drainage, water supply, &c.

Uniform Postal Tariff.

The adoption by the Colony of a uniform postal tariff for all destinations, whether within or without the Postal Union took effect from 1st October.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. J. CROOKS,
Administrator.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 59.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 24.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857–9.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
23	Grenada	1890
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	
57	Mauritius	
58	Lagos	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 59.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 14.]

Sir C. C. SMITH to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

Government House, Singapore.
September 7, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of the report by the Colonial Secretary, in anticipation of the Blue Book of the Straits Settlements for the year 1891.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BLUE BOOK for the Year 1891.

Finance.

1. The revenue of the Colony for the year 1891, amounting to $3,826,603, was less than that for 1890 by $442,523. The principal decreases were under licenses, $403,177; postal revenue, $29,206; revenue stamps, $44,062; miscellaneous receipts, $9,897. On the other hand there were increases under interest of $16,098; land revenue, $54,908. There was a decrease in premia of nearly $20,000, but a sale of land on the Telok Aye r reclamation (the first since 1887) realised $67,594. Land rents also showed a satisfactory increase. There were outstanding on 1st January 1892 arrears of revenue amounting to $64,745; this sum includes a sum of $49,000 due under the head of licenses for the opium and spirit farms of Singapore and is recoverable.

Although the revenue derived from the Excise Farms (licenses) shows such a large falling off, it may be stated that the rents were higher than for 1886 to 1888 ($2,292,600 per annum) while the farms have been let for the three years 1892–1894 at $2,364,000 per annum.

I 73720. Wt. 10230.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

2. The expenditure for 1891 amounted to $4,598,978, and shows an increase, as compared with 1890, of $841,285. There were, however, considerable decreases under some heads in 1891, as compared with 1890, namely, under public works, $186,007; and and houses purchased, $14,702; police, $8,892. The principal increases were under salaries, education, steam launches, postal, interest, miscellaneous services, and special expenses. The payments in respect of the military contribution during the year, including arrears, amounted to $1,087,649.

3. The assets and liabilities on the 31st December 1891 show a balance in favour of assets of $1,302,153, as against $1,221,593 on the 31st December 1890, being an increase of $80,560. The balance of $1,302,153 does not include the "Investments" given under the head of dependencies, amounting to $886,564, these being loans to the Native States and to the Malacca municipality, which are not at call, though they are of course ultimately recoverable. At the close of 1890, the balance of the public debt of the Colony amounted only to 5,800*l.*, and since then the whole of the loan of 100,000*l.* raised under Ordinance No. 1 of 1877 has been paid off and the Colony is free from debt.

4. The following statement gives particulars of the assets and liabilities on the 1st January 1891 and 1892, including dependencies under assets of $886,564:—

Assets.			Liabilities.		
——	1st January 1891.	1st January 1892.	——	1st January 1891.	1st January 1892.
	$	$		$	$
Cash on current account with local banks -	839,047	914,742	Balance in favour of the Crown Agents - -	7,205	—
Do. with Crown Agents -	—	120,356	Debenture loan - -	31,636	—
Investments, gold - -	1,013,762	1,013,762	Deposits, &c. - -	650,641	681,174
Invested in Government of India loans - -	350,000	796	Temporary loan -	—	745,135
Loans to Native States -	765,452	1,062,564	Expenditure in arrears -	685,738	184,561
Loans to municipalities -	553,300	330,500		1,375,220	1,610,870
Other investments -	188,459	242,253			
Miscellaneous advances, &c., - - -	60,371	49,869	Net balance to the credit of the Colony -	2,508,709	2,188,717
Revenue in arrears -	113,538	64,745			
Total - -	3,883,929	3,799,587	Total - -	3,883,929	3,799,587

5. The course of exchange is shown in the following table:—

Bank Bills.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
On London:— Sterling, on demand, Highest -	3 6¼	3 4⅛	3 3¼	3 2¾	3 3	3 4	3 4	3 3¾	3 3¼	3 2¾	3 2⅛	3 3⅛
Lowest -	3 5⅛	3 2⅛	3 2⅝	3 2¼	3 2¼	3 2¼	3 3⅜	3 3¼	3 2⅜	3 2¼	3 1⅝	3 1⅜

The highest rate of exchange during the year was in January, viz., 3*s.* 6¼*d.*, and the lowest rate of exchange during the year was in December, viz., 3*s.* 1⅜*d.*

6. The total bank note circulation of the Colony on the 31st of December 1891 was $5,820,870.

PUBLIC WORKS.

7. The following are the principal works undertaken, carried on, or completed, in 1891 :—

Principal Works.	Estimated Cost.
	$ c.
SINGAPORE.	
Drill Shed for Volunteer Artillery	12,000 00
Telok Ayer reclamation	300,000 00
Beach Road reclamation	51,183 00
Reconstruction of river walls	25,000 00
New Johnstone's pier	24,000 00
PENANG.	
New Government offices	250,000 00
Water supply to Bukit Mertajam	32,500 00
New convalescent bungalow	18,000 00
Clerks' quarters, Butterworth	11,300 00
Quarters for district officer and clerks, Nibong Tebal	12,000 00
Court house, Bukit Tambun	10,000 00
Reconstruction of quarters, central police station	38,000 00
New police administrative block	18,550 00
Tanjong Tokong—Batu Feringgi Road	50,500 00
Kubang Semang—Ara Rendang Road	35,600 00
MALACCA.	
New Water Works	230,000 00

Singapore.

8. On account of the necessity for providing for the augmented military charges now chargeable to the Colony by a decision of the Imperial Government, no new works of importance could be undertaken in 1891, and several which had been included in the estimates for the year had to be indefinitely postponed. Works which were in progress at the commencement of 1891, and which were referred to in the Annual Report for 1890, were completed, but beyond this little was done. The Telok Ayer reclamation was completed, but a small subsidence afterward occurred, which will necessitate alterations estimated to cost $22,000.

Penang.

9. The works executed at this Settlement were also, for the reason above given, confined in the main to such as had been commenced ; others had to be deferred or stopped.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

10. The new Government offices were finally completed at a total cost of $228,639, on an estimate of $250,000. It has been found possible to provide in this building for the Post Office, which was not one of the departments intended to be accommodated there. The proposal to construct a new Post Office has therefore been abandoned.

11. The Bukit Mertajam water supply was completed at the end of the year, and an unexpended balance of the money voted for this work is being applied in extending the service to the village of Sungei Rambai. The scheme has been successfully carried out, and the supply of drinking water is much appreciated by those who benefit from it.

12. The new convalescent bungalow on Penang Hill is a solid structure, built of granite quarried on the spot, and good progress was made with this building during the year.

13. It was decided to postpone the commencement of the new Supreme Court at Penang, but the necessity of this work will no doubt be again considered when the funds at the command of the Colony permit of it.

14. Other services had also to be postponed, including the new road to Batu Feringgi, giving access to the spice plantations at the north of the Island.

15. In accordance with the recommendations of the police commission, the old quarters at the Central Station have been replaced by new and more extensive quarters, which include barracks for 118 single men, and a two-storey barrack for married men. The administrative block was practically completed at the end of 1890, and when the barrack accommodation is finished the police requirements will have been fully met.

16. The Kubang Semang—Ara Rendang Road has been in progress since 1889, and should be completed in 1892, thus opening up a section of country in Province Wellesley which has hitherto been difficult of access.

Malacca.

17. The much needed water-works were commenced during the year, contracts being concluded for the construction of an impounding reservoir at Ayer Keroh and a service reservoir on St. Paul's Hill.

General

18. The following is a list of works and services which remained in abeyance owing to want of funds:—

	$
Supreme Court, Singapore	45,000
Sailors' Home	50,000
Town Market	45,000
Supreme Court Penang	150,000
Sundry Works, Penang and Singapore	75,000
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	100,000
Military Barracks (60,000*l.*)	400,000
Revenue Survey	150,000
Total	$1,015,000

19. Without having recourse to a loan, it may be difficult to proceed with these works, nearly all of which have received the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

MUNICIPALITIES.

20. The following statement gives the actual revenue and expenditure, cash balances, and outstanding loans of the municipalities of the three Settlements respectively for 1890 and 1891 :—

Municipalities.	1890.	1891.
REVENUE:	$	$
Singapore	635,082	*a* 884,003
Penang	237,940	*b* 364,888
Malacca	25,245	*c* 24,486
	898,267	1,273,377
EXPENDITURE:		
Singapore	703,748	805,639
Penang	314,251	355,921
Malacca	23,244	23,280
	1,041,243	1,184,840
CASH BALANCE AT CLOSE OF YEAR :		
Singapore	333,333	411,698
Penang	127,862	136,828
Malacca	2,001	3,206
	463,196	551,732
LOANS OUTSTANDING AT CLOSE OF YEAR :		
Singapore	550,000	800,000
Penang	250,000	350,000
Malacca	23,500	23,000
	823,500	1,173,000

a—Including balance of loan, $250,000.
b— Do. do. do., $100,000.
c— Including $3,000 grant-in-aid for drainage works.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

21. Rates and taxes are levied by Government under powers conferred by section 274 of "The Municipal Ordinance, 1887," in the districts outside the municipalities of Singapore, George Town and Malacca, and the following statement shows the amounts so collected and the account on which they have been expended :—

Moneys levied.		Amount expended on Roads and Bridges.	
	$		$
Singapore - -	4,081	Singapore - -	43,436
Penang and P.W. -	62,769	Penang and P.W. -	167,670
Malacca - -	11,463	Malacca - -	89,014
	78,313		300,120

Excess of Expenditure over Receipts.

	$
Singapore - - - -	39,355
Penang and Province Wellesley -	104,901
Malacca - - - -	77,551
	221,807

The excess of expenditure is, of course, a charge upon the general revenue of the Colony.

LEGISLATION.

22. There were 16 meetings of the Legislative Council during the year, and 17 Ordinances were passed, in regard to none of which has Her Majesty the Queen exercised Her power of disallowance.

The following are among the more important Ordinances passed :—

An Ordinance to prohibit the importation of Foreign Coins. A large quantity of copper coins from North Borneo and Sarawak was being introduced into the Colony, and it was against this that the Ordinance was originally directed. Later on it became necessary to prohibit the importation of the subsidiary silver coins issued from the Chinese and Japanese Mints.

An Ordinance to amend the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1879 authorising the investment of the funds in Indian Government securities.

An Ordinance to regulate Chinese Labour on Agricultural Estates.

An Ordinance to amend the Post Office Ordinance, 1879.

In order to remove doubts as to whether the Letters Patent of the 17th June 1885 conferred on the Legislative Council the power of legislating for aliens, new Letters Patent, dated the 30th December 1891, were issued, in which such power is expressly given. The point had been raised in the Supreme Court on an application for a writ of *Habeas Corpus* in connexion with a Banishment order made by the Governor in Council, but had not been settled by judicial decision.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS AND REGISTRY OF BILLS OF SALE.

23. The fees collected under "The Registration of Deeds Ordinance, 1886," amounted to $6,115, being a decrease of $1,382 as compared with the receipts for 1890. The fees collected under "The Bills of Sale Ordinance, 1886," amounted to $1,195, as against $1,509 for 1890.

24. An Ordinance to amend "The Registration of Deeds Ordinance, 1886," was passed in 1891. The principal changes introduced by this enactment are :—

(*a.*) An alteration in the form of the certificate of identity which renders it unnecessary for persons to attend at the Registry to acknowledge the execution of deeds when a solicitor is willing to make the necessary certificate of inquiry.

(*b.*) Better provisions to enable the Registrar to refuse to register deeds not duly stamped, and deeds relating to land on which an arrear of land revenue is due to the Colony.

(*c.*) Provision for the protection of registering officers, acting *bonâ fide.*

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

25. There was conspicuous increase in the business of this Department. In 1891, 2,315,590 articles were received, and 2,507,810 despatched, as compared with 2,276,258 and 2,285,628 respectively in 1890. There was, however, a decrease of 22,000 coolie letters passing through the Chinese Sub-Post Office in Singapore.

26. The revenue during the year was $119,768, being $29,206 less than the receipts in 1890. This decrease was not unexpected and is only natural when it is remembered that during the year the two chief items of revenue were reduced by 40 per cent.

27. The following reductions in postage have been made during the last two years :—

(1.) On August 1st, 1890, the late fee was reduced from 12 cents to five cents.

(2.) On January 1st, 1891, postage was generally reduced, namely, for the United Kingdom and the Western

Hemisphere from 10 cents, for the continent of Europe, Asia and Northern Africa from eights cents, for Australia from 12 cents, and for South Africa from 24 cents, to an uniform rate of five cents per ½ oz.

(3.) In August, the postage on newspapers and printed papers for Australia and South Africa was materially reduced.

(4.) In November, the prices of foreign post cards were reduced by 33 per cent.

It is satisfactory to notice that, notwithstanding these reductions, the falling off in revenue amounted to less than 16 per cent. compared with the year before.

28. The expenditure for 1891 amounted to $123,580, being $3,811 more than the revenue, and $12,872 more than the expenditure for 1890. It may be noticed that this is the first time since this became a separate Colony that the Post Office has not paid its expenses.

29. There was a very large increase in the operations of the Money Order Branch, the transactions amounting to $538,953 an increase of $143,120 over the transactions of 1890. The Money Order service has been extended to the out-stations of Butterworth, Bukit Mertajam, Nibong Tebal, Balik Pulau and Bukit Tambun, i all of which places the business has exceeded expectations.

SAVINGS BANK.

30. There was a satisfactory increase in the amount deposited during the year, which was $121,559, being $17,988 more than the sum withdrawn. The total sum at the credit of depositors on the 31st December 1891 was $152,923, and the aggregate sum lodged in the bank since its establishment in 1887 was $907,266.

31. Particulars of the business transacted by the branches in Singapore, Penang, and Malacca respectively are given in the following statement:—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
New accounts opened - - -	537	262	30
Accounts closed - - -	380	94	26
Accounts open at the end of the year -	794	216	39
	$	$	$
Deposited, in 1891 - - -	89,505	27,232	4,822
Repaid, in 1891 - - - -	73,797	25,432	4,340
Balance due to depositors at close of 1891 - - - - - -	115,249	33,238	4,435

32. In February 1891 an Ordinance was passed which enabled the funds of the bank to be invested in Indian Government securities and since then the sum of $28,117.18 has been invested in 4 per cent. rupee paper.

EDUCATION.

33. The Education Code was revised during the year, the revised Code being published in the Gazette of the 21st August, 1891.

34. The principal changes are the addition of a 7th Standard to the Standards of Examination, thereby extending the period of the course of study of English from six to seven years; and the addition of a large number of subjects to the list of extra subjects. The first examination under the revised Code will be held in 1892.

35. One hundred and eighty-nine (189) schools were inspected and 7,716 pupils examined during the year, as against 184 schools and 7,264 pupils in 1890.

36. The expenditure on Education amounted to $174,510.78, as compared with an expenditure of $164,138.86 in 1890.

37. Educational progress during the year is shown by the following table:—

	1890.	1891.
Average enrolment at boys' schools :—		
Government English schools - -	1,002	1,114
Aided do. - -	2,854	3,016
Government Malay schools - -	6,759	6,805
Total - - - -	10,615	10,935

38. The average enrolment in the Government and private Girls' Schools in 1891 was 1,566.

POPULATION.

39. The population of the Colony, according to the Census taken on the 5th April 1891, as compared with the Census of 1881, is as follows:—

Settlement.	1881.			1891.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Singapore - - - -	105,423	33,785	139,208	141,330	43,224	184,55
Penang, Province Wellesley, and Dindings - - -	124,205	66,392	190,597	152,884	82,734	235,618
Malacca - - - -	52,059	41,520	93,597	50,337	41,833	92,17
Total - - -	281,687	141,697	423,384	344,551	167,791	512,342

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

Total population of the Colony, 1891, 512,342.
Total increase since 1881 - - 88,958 or 21·0 per cent
Increase in males since 1881 - 62,864 or 22·3 „
Increase in females since 1881 - 26,094 or 18·4 „

Singapore.

Total increase since 1881 - - 45,346 or 32·5 per cent.
Increase in males since 1881 - 35,907 or 34·0 „
Increase in females since 1881 - 9,439 or 27·9 „

Penang, Province Wellesley and Dindings.

Total increase since 1881 - - 45,021 or 23·6 per cent.
Increase in males since 1881 - 28,679 or 23·0 „
Increase in females since 1881 - 16,342 or 24·6 „

Malacca.

Total decrease since 1881 - - 1,427 or 1·5 per cent.
Decrease in males since 1881 - 1,722 or 3·4 „
Decrease in females since 1881 - 313 or 0·7 „

The decrease of the population of Malacca is believed to be temporary and to be due to special causes, the opening up of the Native States of Selangor, Sungei Ujong, and Negri Sembilan having offered a field of enterprise of which many Malacca Malays have availed themselves.

40. The population of the Protected Native States, in which a census was taken at the same time as that of the Colony, is as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Perak - - - -	156,408	57,846	214,254
Selangor - - -	67,051	14,541	81,592
Sungei Ujong - - -	17,234	6,368	23,602
Negri Sembilan - - -	23,327	18,290	41,617
Pahang - - - -	Not given.		57,462
Total - -	—	—	418,527

41. In Pahang great difficulty was experienced in taking the Census, and the Resident of Selangor has reported his doubts of the correctness of the returns of that State. With these exceptions the above returns may be considered fairly accurate.

42. The total cost of taking the Census in the Colony and compiling the returns was $28,024.84.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

43. There was only a slight decrease in the arrivals of Chinese deck-passengers from China, the number arriving in 1891 being 126,088, as compared with 127,936 in 1890.

44. It is satisfactory to notice that there was an appreciable increase in the female immigration, the numbers for 1890 and 1891 being 5,542 and 6,685 respectively. Of these, 4,710 landed in Singapore, 1,958 proceeded to Penang, and 17 to other ports. Of those who landed in Singapore, 548 afterwards proceeded to Selangor and a few to other places.

45. There was a considerable increase in the number of coolies arriving from Hongkong and Amoy, and a falling off in the immigrants from Swatow and Hainan, which is attributed to the failure of Sumatra tobacco and the consequent cessation of the demand for labour on estates.

46. There was a great decrease in the number of contracts to labour executed in the Colony, the total number being 17,956 as against 26,211 in 1890. Contracts to labour in the Dutch possessions were fewer by 4,770, but there was an increase of 592 in the Native States and 599 in Province Wellesley. Of the total number of contracts (17,956) signed in the Colony, 8,950 were for labour in the Colony and Protected Native States and 9,006 for labour in other places. The numbers in 1890 were respectively 6,502 and 19,702.

47. During the year under review, an Ordinance was passed for the purpose of regulating Chinese Labour on Agricultural Estates.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

48. During the year, 3,443 statute immigrants with 293 dependents arrived in the Colony, showing an increase of 618 as compared with 1890. Of this number, 2,644 were for service in the

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

Colony, and 799 for the Native States. 26,446 immigrants not under indenture arrived, being an increase of 8,145, while 23,912 returned to India.

49. The following table gives the statistics of the department since 1881:—

——	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Immigrants under indenture -	879	1,452	1,450	1,539	1,642	2,748	4,736	4,684	2,747	2,960	3,443
Dependents - -	159	209	176	177	49	244	310	317	104	158	293
Free immigrants	5,769	8,276	8,979	14,365	19,819	17,316	12,156	15,812	15,285	18,301	26,446
Total arrivals -	6,807	9,937	10,605	16,081	21,510	20,308	17,202	20,813	18,136	21,419	30,182
Returned to India	5,269	5,947	9,041	10,749	13,417	18,105	12,596	13,190	14,099	15,276	23,913
Remained in the Colony - -	1,538	3,990	1,564	5,332	8,093	2,203	4,606	7,623	4,037	6,143	6,269

50. In March, the Commission appointed to inquire into the state of labour in the Colony issued their report. It has been found necessary to indefinitely postpone action upon one of their principal recommendations—the appointment of an Agent-General for Emigration in the Madras Presidency—owing to the state of the Colonial finances and the necessity for strict economy.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

51. The following tables give the value of the imports and exports at the three Settlements in 1890 and 1891 respectively:—

Imports.

——		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
MERCHANDISE.		$	$	$
United Kingdom - -	1891	13,454,765	3,553,089	—
	1890	15,862,524	4,000,856	—
British Possessions - -	1891	25,048,149	13,281,514	—
	1890	23,634,101	15,718,175	—
Foreign Countries - -	1891	49,814,458	16,673,827	260,629
	1890	53,224,760	18,378,036	461,502

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
MERCHANDISE—*cont.*				
		$	$	$
Between the Settlements -	1891	3,804,300	1,864,557	1,065,631
	1890	6,735,380	1,802,293	1,616,896
Total Value of Merchandise	1891	92,121,672	35,372,987	1,326,260
	1890	99,456,765	39,899,360	2,078,398
TREASURE.				
Total Value of Treasure -	1891	10,890,539	4,968,690	184,378
	1890	13,177,195	3,889,040	149,953
Total Imports of Merchandise and Treasure -	1891	103,012,211	40,341,677	1,510,638
	1890	112,633,960	43,788,400	2,228,351
Grand Total Value of the Imports of the Straits Settlements - -	1891			144,864,526
	1890			158,650,711

Exports.

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
MERCHANDISE.				
		$	$	$
United Kingdom - -	1891	16,930,137	7,510,509	—
	1890	18,246,593	6,512,954	—
British Possessions -	1891	10,365,932	6,945,043	—
	1890	11,113,835	7,694,000	—
Foreign Countries - -	1891	49,127,912	16,563,373	218,148
	1890	47,629,595	16,017,040	279,326
Between the Settlements -	1891	1,678,479	3,856,252	1,292,406
	1890	2,059,115	5,205,232	1,733,204
Total Value of Merchandise	1891	78,102,460	34,875,177	1,510,554
	1890	79,049,138	35,429,226	2,012,530
TREASURE.				
Total Value of Treasure -	1891	13,623,024	6,561,045	110,885
	1890	15,082,666	5,920,021	231,563
Total Exports of Merchandise and Treasure -	1891	91,725,484	41,436,222	1,621,439
	1890	94,131,804	41,349,247	2,244,093
Grand Total Value of the Exports of the Straits Settlements - - - - -	1891			134,783,145
	1890			137,725,144

52. It will be seen from the above returns that if the item Treasure" be excluded, the nett decrease in the total trade of

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

the Colony as compared with 1890 amounted to 14,616,307*l.* or about 5½ per cent.

53. The Trade Returns may now be considered to be as accurate as it is possible to make them, and in the preparation of them the European firms have, as a rule, readily assisted.

54. Low exchange and a general tightness of money account for the commercial depression which prevailed throughout the Colony throughout the year, while the situation was accentuated by the failure of important firms in the Colony and in Siam to meet their liabilities.

55. The following are a few of the principal imports to and exports from the Straits Settlements:—

Imports.

	1890.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton piece goods -	Pieces. 7,117,374	Pieces. 5,038,657	—	2,078,717
Coal - - -	Tons. 324,624	Tons. 375,045	50,421	—
Rice - - -	Pikuls. 6,762,772	Pikuls. 5,778,802	—	983,970
Opium - -	Chests. 14,448	Chests. 16,654	2,206	—
Silk piece goods - -	Pieces. 377,905	Pieces. 266,732	—	111,173
Petroleum - -	Cases. 882,267	Cases. 760,686	—	121,581

Exports.

	1890.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
Coffee - - -	Pikuls. 47,657	Pikuls. 56,137	8,480	—
Gambier - - -	769,704	697,785	—	71,919
Gums - - -	173,051	164,022	—	9,029
Spices - - -	785,370	817,858	32,488	—
Tapioca - - -	544,404	610,842	66,438	—
Tin - - -	537,190	605,829	68,639	—
Copra - - -	300,545	913,674	613,129	—

56. The revenue (Light Dues and Miscellaneous Fees) collected by the Marine Department in each Settlement during 1891 and 1890 appears in the subjoined table :—

	Singapore		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	$	c.	$	c.	$	c.	$	c.
1891 - - -	80,214	72	26,682	66	1,721	63	108,619	01
1890 - - -	71,020	75	27,217	60	1,731	91	99,970	26

57. The following table shows the arrivals and departures of shipping in the Colony during 1891 and 1890 :—

SHIPPING.

Steamers and Square-rigged Vessels.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Arrivals, 1891 -	4,184	3,324,680	2,966	1,760,001	1,417	251,494	8,567	5,336,175
Do. 1890 -	3,646	2,989,059	3,050	1,653,285	1,414	217,376	8,110	4,859,720
Departures, 1891 -	4,155	3,288,577	2,951	1,741,812	1,417	251,494	8,523	5,281,883
Do. 1890 -	3,621	2,955,975	3,028	1,644,976	1,419	217,988	8,068	4,818,939
Total, 1891 -	8,339	6,613,257	5,917	3,501,813	2,834	502,988	17,090	10,618,058
Do. 1890 -	7,267	5,945,034	6,078	3,298,261	2,833	435,364	16,178	9,678,659

Native Craft and Steamers under 50 Tons.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Arrivals, 1891 -	7,293	260,672	5,620	114,807	1,985	32,214	14,898	407,693
Do. 1890 -	5,546	208,689	5,650	118,181	2,141	33,059	13,337	359,929
Departures, 1891 -	7,188	258,802	5,565	114,320	1,987	32,226	14,740	405,348
Do. 1890 -	5,515	212,636	5,641	117,887	2,178	33,701	13,334	364,224
Total, 1891 -	14,481	519,474	11,185	229,127	3,972	64,440	29,638	813,041
Do. 1890 -	11,061	421,325	11,291	236,068	4,319	66,760	26,671	724,153

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

REGISTRY OF SHIPPING.

58. The number and tonnage of the new vessels built in the Colony in 1890 and 1891 is shown in the following table :—

——	No.	Tonnage.
1891 - - - - -	70	4,506
1890 - - - - -	79	4,727

59. Some idea of the relative importance of shipping and commerce in 1891 and 1890 for Singapore and Penang may be gathered from the following returns :—

SHIPPING (EXCLUSIVE OF NATIVE CRAFT).

Singapore.

1891 - 8,339 vessels, measuring 6,613,257 tons.
1890 - 7,267 „ „ 5,945,034 „

Penang.

1891 - 5,917 vessels, measuring 3,501,813 tons.
1890 - 6,078 „ „ 3,298,261 „

TRADE.

Singapore.

	$
1891 - - - -	194,737,695
1890 - - - -	206,765,764

Penang.

	$
1 - - - -	1,777,899
0 - - - -	85,137,647

60. Out of the increase in the revenue of $9,193, light dues contributed an increase of $7,558. This is accounted for, in a great measure, by the increase in the arrivals and departures of steamers and square-rigged vessels. The enforcement of the regulation requiring the annual renewal of Junk and Tongkang licenses more than doubled the fees for registration of these vessels.

LIGHTHOUSES.

61. Lighthouses, launches, buoys, and beacons have been kept in an efficient condition, new rollers have been supplied to the Muka Head and Fort Cornwallis Lights, and the Malacca Harbour Lighthouses has been fitted up with part of the old Horsburgh light, the re-arrangement giving general satisfaction.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

62. The health statistics for 1891 are fairly satisfactory, but the Colony cannot be said to have been entirely free from epidemic disease.

63. Cholera appeared in all the Settlements—to a slight extent in Singapore, but more noticeably in Penang, while in Malacca it may be said to have been epidemic for a short time.

64. The following return shows the number of cases of cholera, and deaths from that disease, in the three Settlements respectively :—

	Cases.	Deaths.
Singapore - -	36	24
Penang - - -	70	48
Malacca - - -	119	89

65. There were 168 cases of small-pox in the Colony, and 44 deaths.

66. There was a decrease in the number of cases of *beri-beri* treated, and the death-rate among patients suffering from this disease was lower.

67. Only three authenticated cases of hydrophobia were brought under the notice of the medical authorities during the year.

68. The following table gives the number of patients treated in all Government hospitals, and of the deaths among them, during 1891, as compared with 1890 :—

	Number of Patients treated.			Number of Deaths.			Percentage of Deaths to Total treated.		
	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.
1891 - - -	944	22,176	23,120	43	2,710	2,753	4·55	12·22	11·90
1890 - - -	832	19,947	20,779	37	2,414	2,451	4·44	12·10	11·79

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1891.

69. The number of patients treated and the deaths that occurred in hospital in each of the Settlements were as follows:—

Settlement.	Total treated.	Deaths.
Singapore - - - -	11,015	1,282
Penang and the Dindings - -	6,801	777
Province Wellesley - -	2,485	360
Malacca - - - -	2,819	334

70. The numbers in the leper hospital, Singapore, and leper asylum, Penang, during 1890 and 1891, were as follows:—

Hospitals.	1890.				1891.			
	Cases.	Died.	Discharged or Absconded.	Remained.	Cases.	Died.	Discharged, Absconded, or transferder.	Remained.
Leper Hospital -	132	18	87	27	155	49	49	57
Leper Asylum, Pulau Jerejak -	326	91	—	235	353	123	—	230

71. A serious explosion of cartridges which occurred at the Central Police Station, Singapore, in March, caused the death of 11 constables.

BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE.

72. The total number of receiving orders made during the year 1891 was:—

	No. of Proceedings.	No. of Debtors.
In Singapore - - -	51	65
In Penang - - - -	8	11
In Malacca - - - -	—	—
Total - -	59	76

of these 55 were proceeded with, as against 58 in 1890.

73. Liabilities, according to the debtors' estimates, amounted to $2,687,114, as against $932,227 in the previous year, and the proofs lodged with the Official Assignee gave a total of $3,903,962, as against $940,833 in 1890.

REGISTRATION OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

73. The number of joint stock companies registered during the year was as follows :—

——	Number.	Amount of Capital.
Singapore - - - -	6	$ 1,041,005

74. The directors of several companies were prosecuted in Penang for breach of the provisions of "The Companies Ordinance, 1889," nominal fines being imposed in most cases.

METEOROLOGY.

75. The following statement shows the maximum, minimum, and mean temperature of the air at each of the Settlements during the year :—

——	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.
Singapore - - - -	88·2	70·8	79·5
Penang - - - -	91·9	73·0	80·6
Province Wellesley - - -	93·0	70·0	80·5
Malacca - - - -	92·0	68·0	79·1

76. Returns of rainfall for the whole year were received from 52 stations in the Colony. The heaviest rainfall was in Penang.

77. The following table shows the total rainfall at each of the Settlements, the maximum and minimum rainfall registered in one month, and the maximum in 24 hours :—

Settlement.	Total Rainfall.	Maximum Fall in one Month.	Minimum Fall in one Month.	Maximum Fall in 24 hours.
	Inches.	Ins.	Ins.	Inches.
Singapore - -	88·48	Mar. - 15·09	Aug. - 1·90	5·82
Penang - -	126·69	Sept. - 31·74	April - 1·75	8·12
Province Wellesley.	103·91	Sept. - 20·26	Mar. - 1·61	5·12
Malacca - -	84·09	Oct. - 29·12	Feb. - 0·10	9·35
Dindings - -	77·39	Sept. - 14·20	Aug. - 0·56	5·60

POLICE AND CRIME.

78. The following table shows the stength and distribution of the police force in 1891:—

Settlement.	Europeans.			Native Contingent.		Sikh Contingent.		Total.
	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Men.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Men.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Men.	
Singapore - - -	14	6	30	64	700	7	105	926
Penang - - -	18	4	24	71	689	6	73	879
Malacca - -	5	2	—	38	253	4	34	336
Total - -	37	12	54	173	1,642	17	202	2,141

79. Towards the end of the year, five stations in Malacca and two in Singapore were closed owing to diminution in crime in their neighbourhood.

80. The Chinese contingent, which was introduced on the recommendation of the police commission of 1889, has not proved entirely satisfactory.

81. One hundred and fourteen (114) men were dismissed from the force during the year for police offences, and 77 were sent for trial before the magistrates.

82. Twenty-five thousand four hundred (25,400) arrests were made during the year as against 23,952 in 1890. 12,828 offences were reported to the police, of which 4,086 remained undiscovered.

83. Proceedings were taken against a secret society in Singapore called "Tong Beng," which had been suppressed some years ago. Eleven of the members were convicted and two of the headmen banished after inquiry by his Excellency the Governor in Council.

84. Cases of serious crime were somewhat less numerous in 1891 than in the preceding year. There were fewer cases of murder, gang-robbery, and causing grievous hurt. Four criminals were executed, as against eight in 1890.

85. There was, on the other hand, an increase in Singapore and Malacca of minor offences against the person and against property, while in Penang there was a slight decrease.

JUDICIAL.

86. There was a decrease in the number of prisoners brought before the Supreme Court in 1891, as compared with 1890, the numbers being respectively 303 and 431.

87. The courts of two magistrates relieve the Supreme Court of a considerable amount of work, but even accounting for the cases tried in these courts, there was still a satisfactory decrease in the more serious crimes in 1891.

88. The number of acquittals was very high, being 105, as against 180 convictions. Penang is responsible for this high rate, there being no less than 77 acquittals to 81 convictions in that Settlement.

89. Thirty-three thousand six hundred and fifty-three (33,653) cases, in which 49,773 defendants were implicated, were brought before the police courts of the Colony. The increase is considerable, the numbers for 1890 being 30,671 and 44,715 respectively.

90. There was a decrease in the civil business of the Supreme Courts, 2,862 cases being commenced in 1891, as compared with 3,734 in 1890. The amount of debt and damages involved was $5,038,000.

91. There was an increase in the number of cases begun in the Courts of Requests, but the aggregate of the sums in dispute was slightly less than in 1890.

92. Six hundred and thirty-two (632) ecclesiastical petitions were filed during the year, including 115 applications for probate and administration under "The District Delegates Ordinance, 1887," which is now finding favour with the poorer classes of Penang and Province Wellesley. Under this Ordinance probate and letters of administration are granted in respect of estates under $500 by the district officers, the fee being $2, which includes all charges.

PRISONS.

93. The health of the prisoners in the three Settlements was good during the year, the number of deaths being 31. Two suicides occurred in the Singapore prison.

94. One convict effected his escape from the Penang prison and was not re-taken. There were two executions in Penang.

DINDINGS.

95. Little noticeable progress can be recorded in this district, and the receipts under many heads of revenue have continued to decrease. The Census showed an increase of 1,263 in the population since the previous Census.

96. Malarial fever was rife throughout the year, which is reported to have been an exceptionally unhealthy one.

97. Encouragement is being given to the introduction of new settlers at the Dindings and these include some from Achin.

(Signed) W. E. MAXWELL,
Colonial Secretary,
Straits Settlements.

Singapore, 25th August 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

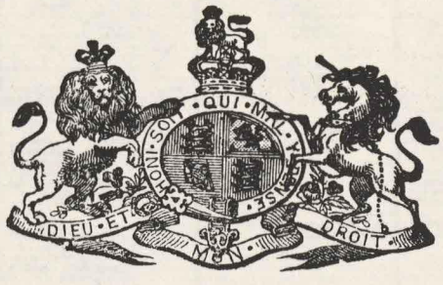
No. 81.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 59.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–31.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Bastuoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 81.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 59.]

Sir C. C. SMITH to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

Government House, Penang,
May 9, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of the report by the Colonial Secretary, in anticipation of the Blue Book of the Straits Settlements for the year 1892.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT IN ANTICIPATION OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1892.

Finance.

1. The revenue of the Colony for the year 1892 amounted to $3,652,789 (Singapore, $2,054,279; Penang, $1,304,003; Malacca, $294,507), being less than the revenue for 1891 by $173,814.

2. The principal heads under which a falling-off is noticeable are:—

	$
Land revenue - - -	,069
Interest - - - -	- 193,263

In the case of land revenue the decrease is very easily explained. In 1892 no special sales of town lands were held, and consequently, under this head alone, the year 1892 showed a decrease of $62,081 on the receipts of the previous year.

Sales, which may or may not take place, are an intermittent source of revenue, and their omission in a particular year is not to be taken into consideration in reviewing the financial position

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1892.

of the Colony. The gradual growth of the permanent land revenue is highly satisfactory. The Crown rents have, in consequence of improved administration, risen steadily in all the Settlements—in Singapore from $27,891 in 1883 to $40,876 in 1892, in Penang from $26,179 in 1883 to $58,654 in 1892, and in Malacca from $55,441 in 1883 to $81,267 in 1892.

A falling off under the head of interest was to be expected under the altered circumstances of the Colony, the surplus balances, which had been invested, having been realized to meet the increased military contribution and other charges. Again, the Negri Sembilan States and Pahang have been unable to pay interest on their loans, and the anticipated receipts of the Colony for 1892 have been diminished accordingly. These payments are, however, only deferred.

3. The principal increases were as follows :—

	$
Licenses - - - - -	26,395
Stamps - - - - -	5,891
Postage - - - - -	18,341
Fines, forfeitures and fees of court - -	3,135
Fees of office - - - -	2,903
Reimbursements - - - -	15,212
District collections - - - -	4,765
Total - - - -	$76,642

Under the head of Licenses the increase is principally to be attributed to pawnbrokers' licenses, which show an increase of $14,395.

Postal revenue shows an increase under all its heads, but chiefly in postage stamps ($12,653).

The increase in reimbursements ($16,332) is due to the progress of survey and revenue settlement in Penang and Province Wellesley, the amount recovered for erecting boundary stones being $23,390.19.

4. The expenditure for 1892 amounted to $4,270,575, showing a decrease, as compared with 1891, of $328,403. The principal decreases were as follows :—

	$
Military expenditure - - -	249,682
Special expenses - - - -	81,184
Miscellaneous services - - -	70,884
Roads, streets and bridges - - -	61,664
Marine Department - - - -	12,678
Education - - - - -	9,525
Transport - - - -	8,768

There was an increase under the following heads :—

	$
Salaries - - - - -	40,684
Pensions - - - - -	9,690
Medical - - - - -	7,309
Interest - - - - -	75,327
Works and Buildings - - -	40,469

5. The assets and liabilities on the 31st December, 1892, show a balance in favour of assets of $674,682, as against $1,302,123 on the 31st December, 1891, being a decrease of $627,471.

The balance of $674,682 does not include the investments given under the head of Dependencies, amounting to $1,048,465, these being loans to the Native States and to the Malacca Municipality. These loans are not at call, and though eventually recoverable, cannot be realised for some time to come.

6. The following statement gives particulars of the assets and liabilities on the 1st January, 1892 and 1893, including Dependencies under assets of $1,048,465 :—

ASSETS.			LIABILITIES.		
——	1st January 1892.	1st January 1893.	——	1st January 1892.	1st January 1893.
	$	$		$	$
Cash on current account with local banks -	914,742	853,981	Deposits, &c. - -	681,174	876,792
Do. with Crown Agents -	120,356	26,189	Temporary loan -	745,135	—
Investments, gold - -	1,013,762	136,869	Expenditure in arrears -	184,561	21,500
Invested in Government of India loans - -	796	—		1,610,870	898,292
Loans to Native States -	1,062,564	1,025,965			
Loans to municipalities -	330,500	22,500			
Other investments -	242,253	359,722			
Miscellaneous advances, &c., - - -	49,869	142,413	Net balance to the credit of the Colony -	2,188,717	1,723,147
Revenue in arrears -	64,745	53,800			
Total - -	3,799,587	2,621,439	Total - -	3,799,587	2,621,439

7. The course of exchange during the year 1892 is shown in the following table :—

Bank Bills.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
On London :— Sterling, on demand, Highest -	3 0¼	2 11⅜	2 10⅞	2 9⅝	2 9⅝	2 10⅝	2 10½	2 9⅝	2 9⅛	2 9⅞	2 9½	2 9
Lowest -	3 0	2 11	2 10⅜	2 9	2 9¼	2 10⅜	2 10⅛	2 9¼	2 9	2 9⅜	2 9¼	2 8

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1892.

The average rate of exchange during the year on demand was 2*s.* $10\frac{2}{5}d.$, and at four months' sight was 2*s.* $10\frac{3}{5}d.$

8. The total estimated bank-note circulation of the Colony on 31st December, 1892, was $6,353,191, but it should be remarked that on that date the notes of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China had been to a great extent withdrawn from circulation owing to the reconstruction of the Bank. The return deals, therefore, almost altogether with the note issue of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

PUBLIC WORKS.

9. The works undertaken, carried on, or completed, in 1892 were few and unimportant. The following return comprises the more important of the items of expenditure :—

Principal Works.	Estimated Cost.	
	$	c.
SINGAPORE.		
Extra female leper ward and new male ward	6,600	00
Extension of Beach Road reclamation	9,500	00
Completion of Telok Ayer reclamation	22,000	00
PENANG.		
New convalescent bungalow	20,500	00
Clerks' quarters, Butterworth	11,300	00
Quarters for district officer and clerks, Nibong Tebal	14,150	00
Court house, Bukit Tambun	10,000	00
Kubang Semang-Ara Rendang Road	35,600	00
Trans-Krian Road	17,500	00
Reconstruction of quarters, central police station	38,000	00
Tanjong Tokong-Batu Feringgi Road	50,500	00
MALACCA.		
Water Works	249,963	00

Singapore.

10. In Singapore, owing to want of funds, many pressing works had to be abandoned and little has been done beyond ordinary maintenance. The leper wards were in such a ruinous state that they had to be removed. The Beach Road Reclamation is a service necessitated by the dredging of the Singapore River and by the importance of covering in the spoil thus obtained with red earth to prevent malaria. The Telok Ayer Reclamation gave some further trouble, but the bank has now almost settled down, and this useful and profitable work may be said to be practically complete.

Penang.

11. The first six works named in the list were finished within the year. At the central police station the barracks for 118

single men were completed, and considerable progress was made with the two-storied barrack for 40 married men.

The works begun on the Tanjong Tokong-Batu Feringgi Road had to be stopped owing to want of funds, which is much to be regretted.

MUNICIPALITIES.

12. The following statement gives the actual revenue and expenditure, cash balances, and outstanding loans of the municipalities of the three Settlements respectively for 1891 and 1892:—

Municipalities.	1891.	1892.
REVENUE:	$	$
Singapore	*a* 884,003	608,081
Penang	364,888	281,717
Malacca	24,486	21,049
	1,273,377	910,847
EXPENDITURE:		
Singapore	805,639	762,702
Penang	355,921	394,439
Malacca	23,280	22,786
	1,184,840	1,179,927
CASH BALANCE AT CLOSE OF YEAR:		
Singapore	411,698	199,607.57
Penang	136,828	24,107.00
Malacca	3,206	1,469.00
	551,732	225,183·57
LOANS OUTSTANDING AT CLOSE OF YEAR:		
Singapore	800,000	800,000
Penang	350,000	350,000
Malacca	23,000	22,500
	1,173,000	1,172,500

a—Including balance of loan, $250,000.
b— Do. do. do., $100,000.

The municipalities of Singapore and George Town, Penang, are pressing for increased borrowing powers, being dissatisfied with those which are now allowed to them by "The Municipal Ordinance 1887."

There is no doubt that the present limit (three times the annual income from rates and taxes) is small compared with that which has been fixed for municipalities in other places, and urgent sanitary works are required in both towns.

The water works at Malacca, estimated to cost $247,000, are being constructed at Government expense, the municipality, which

has an annual income of $22,500 only, being unable to undertake an enterprise of this magnitude. The water rate will be Colonial revenue, but will be collected by the municipality for the Government.

13. In the country districts beyond the limits of the municipalities of Singapore, George Town, and Malacca, rates and taxes were collected during the year 1892, under section 274 of the Municipal Ordinance, and the following statement shows the amounts so collected and how far they contribute towards the expenditure which they are designed to meet.

Rates and Taxes levied.		Amount expended on Roads and Bridges.	
	$		$
Singapore - -	5,182.17	Singapore - -	40,300.00
Penang - -	63,535.59	Penang - -	125,692.62
Malacca - -	13,470.45	Malacca - -	75,640.54
Total - -	82,188.21	Total - -	241,633.16

The excess of expenditure over revenue ($159,444.95) falls, of course, on the general revenue of the Colony.

LEGISLATION.

14. Twenty-three meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year, and 17 Ordinances were passed.

The list is as follows :—

No. I.—An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the validity of certain marriages solemnized in the Colony, by Clergymen of the Church of England without previous publication of Banns.

No. II.—An Ordinance for the Enrolment of Coast Defence Volunteers.

No. III.—An Ordinance for giving to a foreign Company called the Netherlandsche Handel Maatschappij certain facilities for carrying on its business in the Colony.

No. IV.—An Ordinance to amend "The Petroleum Ordinance, 1883."

No. V.—An Ordinance for the regulation and control of Jinrikishas.

No. VI.—An Ordinance for restricting Labour on Sunday on board Vessels in the Waters of the Colony.

No. VII.—An Ordinance to establish a Code of Criminal Procedure.

No. VIII.—An Ordinance to repeal certain enactments regulating Criminal Procedure.

No. IX.—An Ordinance for making provision for the Public Service for the year 1893.

No. X.—An Ordinance for making final provision for the Public service for the year 1891.

No. XI.—An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the validity of the Ordinances enacted subsequently to the issue of the Queen's Letters Patent of the 17th of June 1885.

No. XII.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. VIII. of 1892.

No. XIII.—An Ordinance to amend "The Steam Vessels Ordinances, 1882 and 1887."

No. XIV.—An Ordinance to amend "The Crimping Ordinance, 1877."

No. XV.—An Ordinance to amend "The Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1885."

No. XVI.—An Ordinance to amend "The Indian Immigration Ordinance, 1884."

No. XVII. An Ordinance to amend "The Marine Court of Inquiry Ordinance, 1870."

Of these Ordinances, the most important were Nos. V., VI., and VII. Ordinance No. V. effected a change in the law relating to Jinrikishas by tranferring the responsibility for such offences as loitering for hire, street obstruction, plying for hire with jinrikishas unfit for use, &c. from the puller to the owner of the vehicle, the penalty provided being the detention of the jinrikisha in the depôt or the suspension of the license. It came into force in the Settlement of Singapore, on the 1st of September, 1892. Ordinance No. VI. put a stop to the working of cargo on board ships within the waters of the Colony on Sundays, except under certain special circumstances. It came into force on the 1st of July 1892; it has worked smoothly and it is acknowledged to be a boon to the seafaring community, while it does not unduly interfere with the requirements of trade. Ordinance No. VII. of 1892 consolidated and amended the law of Criminal Procedure, supplying, it may be hoped, a measure the want of which has been complained of constantly since 1872, when the penal code was brought into force. It has not, however, as yet come into force, as some further amendments are contemplated.

His Excellency has been informed by the Secretary of State that Her Majesty will not be advised to exercise her powers of disallowance in respect of these Ordinances.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS.

15. The fees collected under "The Registration of Deeds Ordinance, 1886," (which is based on the principle of the Yorkshire Act, and has been so far only applied to the Settlement of Singapore) amounted to $5,290.75, being $825 below the total receipts of the previous year. This falling off is to be attributed to the depression in the Singapore land market which existed throughout the year, only a small amount of property changing ownership. The

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1892.

registration and mutation of titles to land in Penang and Malacca is still carried on (pending the completion of survey) under a condemned system which dates from 1839, and no penalty attaches to non-registration or delay in registering.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

16. The business of this Department still continues to increase. During the year, 2,385,280 articles were received and 2,639,190 despatched, as against 2,315,590 and 2,507,810 respectively in 1891. The number of Chinese coolie letters passing the Chinese Sub-Post Office in Singapore shows an increase of 13,057, against a falling-off of 22,000 the year before.

The revenue of the Department amounted to $138,350, an increase of $18,581 over the receipts in 1891, showing that the reduction in the rates of postage in 1891 has had only a temporary effect, and that there is reason to anticipate a steady rise in the receipts in future years.

On 1st January, 1892, postage on a packet of printed papers addressed to any part of the postal world was reduced from 2 cents to 1 cent for every 2 ozs.

The expenditure for 1892 amounted to $132,941, being $5,409 less than the revenue and $9,361 more than the expenditure in the previous year. There must, of course, be an increase of staff proportionate to the expansion of the Department, and it is to this that the rise in expenditure above remarked on is due.

The transactions of the Money Order Branch amounted to $588,126, showing an increase of $49,173 over those of 1891. In Singapore, the superintendence of the Money Order Branch and of the Savings Bank has been entrusted to a special officer appointed by the Home Government.

SAVINGS BANK.

17. The following statement gives the particulars of the business transacted by the branches at Singapore, Penang, and Malacca during the year;—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
New accounts opened - - -	537	146	45
Accounts closed - - -	440	136	30
Accounts open at the end of the year -	1,048	262	43
	$	$	$
Deposited in 1892 - - -	104,657	27,622	7,487
Repaid in 1892 - - - -	86,571	29,131	6,809
Balance due to depositors at close of 1892 - - - - -	138,040	37,692	6,963

The increase in the amount deposited during the year over that deposited in the previous year was $17,315. The deposit during 1891 showed a similar increase over the figures for 1890.

The total sum at the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1892, was $182,695, and the aggregate amount lodged since the establishment of the Bank in 1877 proved to be $1,047,032. Under Ordinance III. of 1891, the sum of $70,404.64 has been invested in Government of India 4 Per Cent. Rupee Paper.

The rate of interest allowed to depositors was lowered from 4 per cent. to 3½ per cent. from and after the 1st of October, 1892.

EDUCATION.

18. The first examinations under the revised Code of 1891 were held at the inspections at the end of 1892.

Two hundred (200) schools were inspected, and 8,468 pupils examined during the year, as compared with 189 schools and 7,716 pupils in 1891.

The expenditure on Education amounted to $180,350,* as compared with an expenditure of $174,510 in 1891.

The average enrolment at the Boys' Schools in the Colony is shown in the following table:—

	1891.	1892.
Government English schools - -	1,114	1,027
Aided do. - -	3,016	3,419
Government Malay schools - -	6,805	7,216
Total - - - -	10,935	11,662

The average enrolment in the Government and Private Girls' Schools in 1892 was 1,781, as against 1,566 in the previous year.

POPULATION.

19. The number of births registered in 1892 in all the Settlements was 12,690, of which 6,660 were those of male, and 6,030 those of female, children.

20. The deaths registered in 1892 numbered 16,033, as against 17,570 in 1891, or a decrease of 1,537, the highest rate of mortality having been recorded at Singapore. The greatest number of deaths occurred among persons between the ages of 25 and 35, the death-rate being 31·29 of the total number.

* Approximately only, Crown Agents' account not being finally adjusted.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1892.

21. The following table gives the number of births and deaths registered in each Settlement during the past two years: —

Settlement.	Births.		Deaths.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Singapore - -	3,004	3,326	6,449	5,621
Dindings - - -	115	104	106	79
Penang - - -	2,248	2,395	4,903	4,241
Province Wellesley -	3,182	3,262	3,441	3,331
Malacca - - -	2,732	3,603	2,671	2,761
Total - -	18,211	12,690	17,570	16,033

The total population of the Colony, according to the Census of 1891, was 512,342.

As, judging from the results of the last Census, the population increases at the rate of 2·1 per cent. per annum, the population may now be roughly estimated to be 534,000.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

22. During the year 1892 there was a further decrease in the arrivals of Chinese deck passengers from China, the number being 122,029, as compared with 126,088 in 1891 and 127,936 in 1890.

There was an increase in the number of female immigrants, 6,867 having arrived, as against 6,685 in 1891. Of these, 4,804 landed in Singapore, 2,024 proceeded to Penang, and 39 to other ports. Eight hundred and twenty-two (822) of the Singapore arrivals proceeded subsequently to the Protected Native States and other places. Coolies have arrived from Hongkong and Swatow in increased numbers, but there was a great falling off in the immigration from Amoy and Hainan.

The total number of labour contracts executed in the Colony was 23,448, as against 17,956 in 1891. Contracts to labour in the Dutch Possessions were fewer by 3,195, while, on the other hand, the Native States contracts show an increase of 10,474. Contracts for Province Wellesley show a decrease of 60.

Out of the total number of contracts made in the Colony, 18,991 were for labour in the Colony and Protected Native States, and 4,457 for labour in other places. The corresponding figures for 1891 were respectively 8,950 and 9,006.

During the year, an Ordinance (No. XIV. of 1892) was passed to amend "The Crimping Ordinance, 1877," which restricts the

issue of licenses for recruiting coolies to labour without the Colony at any place which is not part of Her Majesty's Dominions or under the protection of the British Government.

Preparations were made at the close of the year for bringing into operation on the 1st January, 1893, "The Chinese Agricultural Labourers' Ordinance, 1891," and a special officer was detailed for the purpose of supervising its initiation.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

23. During the year, 1,628 statute immigrants with 423 dependants arrived in the Colony.

Of this number, 1,192 were for service in the Colony, and 436 for service in the Native States. The figures show a decrease in the number of immigrants of 1,750 as compared with 1891. Sixteen thousand three hundred and seventy (16,370) immigrants not under indenture arrived in the Colony, showing a decrease of 10,076 as compared with the previous year's arrivals. Seventeen thousand seven hundred and twenty-two (17,722) immigrants returned to India.

The following table gives the statistics of the Department for the last 11 years:—

——	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Immigrants under indenture -	1,452	1,450	1,539	1,642	2,748	4,736	4,684	2,747	2,960	3,443	1,628
Dependants - -	209	176	177	49	244	310	317	104	158	293	423
Free immigrants	8,276	8,979	14,365	19,819	17,316	12,156	15,812	15,285	18,301	26,446	16,370
Total arrivals -	9,937	10,605	16,081	21,510	20,308	17,202	20,813	18,136	21,419	30,182	18,421
Returned to India	5,947	9,041	10,749	13,417	18,105	12,596	13,190	14,099	15,276	23,913	17,722
Remained in the Colony - -	3,990	1,564	5,332	8,093	2,203	4,606	7,623	4,037	6,143	6,269	699

24. At the close of the year, an Ordinance (No. XVI. of 1892) was passed to amend the Indian Immigration Ordinance of 1884, in accordance with the recommendations of the Labour Commission which were made in 1891.

The chief changes introduced are as follows:—

The rate of wages is raised during the first year of contract from 12 to 14 cents for males and from 8 to 10 cents per day for females.

The total sum for advances and smart money is fixed at $24, and task work is recognized. The period of contract, when for three years, is to be determined whenever 720 days' work have been completed.

The maximum of three years is allowed to be extended in cases where absence from work occurs under certain circumstances.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1892.

TRADE AND SHIPPING.

25. The following tables give the value of the imports and exports at the three Settlements in 1892 and 1891 respectively :—

Imports.

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
MERCHANDISE.		$	$	$
United Kingdom	1892	12,435,751	3,374,373	147,457
	1891	13,454,765	3,553,089	—
British Possessions	1892	23,284,426	14,909,704	—
	1891	25,048,149	13,281,514	—
Foreign Countries	1892	56,676,554	18,767,694	278,233
	1891	49,814,458	16,673,827	260,629
Between the Settlements	1892	4,200,195	2,231,023	1,079,540
	1891	3,804,300	1,864,557	1,065,631
Total Value of Merchandise	1892	96,596,926	39,282,794	1,505,230
	1891	92,121,672	35,372,987	1,326,260
TREASURE.				
Total Value of Treasure	1892	10,373,136	2,138,782	177,055
	1891	10,890,539	4,968,690	184,378
Total Imports of Merchandise and Treasure	1892	106,970,062	41,421,576	1,682,285
	1891	103,012,211	40,341,677	1,510,638
Grand Total Value of the Imports of the Straits Settlements	1892			150,073,923
	1891			144,864,526

Exports.

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
MERCHANDISE.		$	$	$
United Kingdom	1892	15,753,583	9,246,674	—
	1891	16,930,137	7,510,509	—
British Possessions	1892	10,744,016	5,848,765	—
	1891	10,365,932	6,945,043	—
Foreign Countries	1892	55,497,427	18,202,214	224,845
	1891	49,127,912	16,563,373	218,148

		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
		$	$	$
MERCHANDISE—*cont.*				
Between the Settlements -	1892	2,358,749	3,782,640	1,173,183
	1891	1,678,479	3,856,252	1,292,406
Total Value of Merchandise	1892	84,353,775	37,080,293	1,398,028
	1891	78,102,460	34,875,177	1,510,554
TREASURE.				
Total Value of Treasure -	1892	13,496,674	6,594,525	88,672
	1891	13,123,024	6,561,045	110,885
Total Exports of Merchandise and Treasure -	1892	97,850,449	43,674,818	1,486,700
	1891	91,225,484	41,436,222	1,621,439
Grand Total Value of the Exports of the Straits Settlements - - - - -	1892			143,011,967
	1891			134,283,145

26. It will be seen from the above returns that, if the item "Treasure" be excluded, the net increase in the total trade of the Colony as compared with 1891 amounted to $16,907,936, or nearly 7 per cent.

27. From the nature of the Colony's trade a year of large exports means also increased imports, and an average depreciation in the sterling value of the dollar of over 11 per cent. compared with 1891, tended to stimulate exports, which show increases in all the principal articles, copra and tapioca excepted. This depreciation, on the other hand, unfavourably affected the import of cotton piece goods and European manufactures generally.

28. For the first time in the history of the Colony's trade imports of China-grown opium have to be recorded.

29. The following are a few of the principal imports to and exports from the Straits Settlements:—

Imports.

	1891.	1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Pieces.	Pieces.		
Cotton piece goods -	5,038,657	4,627,745	—	410,912
	Tons.	Tons.		
Coal - - -	375,045	334,305	—	40,740
	Pikuls.	Pikuls.		
Rice - - -	5,778,802	6,318,981	540,179	—
	Chests.	Chests.		
Opium - - -	16,654	13,732	—	2,922
	Pieces.	Pieces.		
Silk piece goods - -	266,732	255,491	—	11,241
	Cases.	Cases.		
Petroleum - -	760,686	825,991	65,305	—

Exports.

	1891.	1892.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Pikuls.	Pikuls.		
Coffee - - -	56,137	69,747	13,610	—
Gambier - - -	697,785	844,550	146,765	—
Gums - - -	164,022	159,705	—	4,317
Spices - - -	817,858	910,386	92,528	—
Tapioca - - -	610,842	539,962	—	70,880
Tin - - -	605,829	636,002	30,173	—
Copra - - -	913,674	429,870	—	483,804

30. The revenue (Light Dues and Miscellaneous Fees) collected by the Marine Department in each Settlement during 1892 and 1891 appears in the subjoined table :—

	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
1892 - - -	80,482 09	22,321 61	1,964 14	104,767 84
1891 - - -	80,214 72	26,682 66	1,721 63	108,619 01

31. The following table shows the arrivals and departures of shipping in the Colony during 1892 and 1891 :—

SHIPPING.

Steamers and Square-rigged Vessels.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Arrivals, 1892 -	4,143	3,280,222	2,970	1,630,643	1,344	239,232	8,457	5,150,097
Do. 1891 -	4,184	3,324,680	2,966	1,760,001	1,417	251,494	8,567	5,336,175
Departures, 1892 -	4,114	3,181,801	2,953	1,629,879	1,341	238,658	8,408	5,050,338
Do. 1891 -	4,155	3,288,577	2,951	1,741,812	1,417	251,494	8,523	5,281,883
Total, 1892 -	8,257	6,462,023	5,923	3,260,522	2,685	477,890	16,865	10,200,435
Do. 1891 -	8,339	6,613,257	5,917	3,501,813	2,834	502,988	17,090	10,618,058

Native Craft and Steamers under 50 Tons.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Arrivals, 1892 -	7,966	309,162	4,479	101,752	2,092	35,601	14,537	446,515
Do. 1891 -	7,293	260,672	5,620	114,807	1,985	32,214	14,898	407,693
Departures, 1892 -	7,887	307,258	4,524	103,946	2,087	35,479	14,498	446,683
Do. 1891 -	7,188	258,802	5,565	114,320	1,987	32,226	14,740	405,348
Total, 1892 -	15,853	616,420	9,003	205,698	4,179	71,080	29,035	893,198
Do. 1891 -	14,481	519,474	11,185	229,127	3,972	64,440	29,638	813,041

REGISTRY OF SHIPPING.

32. The number and tonnage of the new vessels built in the Colony in 1892 and 1891 is shown in the following table :—

	No.	Tonnage.
1892 - - - - -	57	3,593
1891 - - - - -	70	4,506

33. Some idea of the relative importance of shipping and commerce in 1892 and 1891 for Singapore and Penang may be gathered from the following Returns :—

SHIPPING (EXCLUSIVE OF NATIVE CRAFT).

Singapore.

1892 - 8,257 vessels, measuring 6,462,023 tons.

1891 - 8,339 „ „ 6,613,257 „

Penang.

1892 - 5,923 vessels, measuring 3,260,522 tons.

1891 - 5,917 „ „ 3,501,813 „

TRADE.

Singapore.

	$
1892 - - - -	204,820,511
1891 - - - -	194,737,695

Penang.

	$
1892 - - - -	85,096,394
1891 - - - -	81,777,899

34. Out of the decrease in the revenue of $3,851, light dues decrease by $2,376. In this item of revenue, Singapore contributed an increase of $809, Malacca of $261, while Penang showed a decrease of $3,446.

LIGHTHOUSES, &c.

35. Lighthouses, launches, buoys, and beacons have been kept in an efficient condition.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

36. The general health of the Colony for 1892 has been fairly good, the vital statistics showing a decline in the general mortality as compared with those of former years, and this despite the fact that smallpox prevailed in all the Settlements, more especially in Penang and Province Wellesley, where it was almost epidemic.

Cholera.—With the exception of three sporadic cases in the Singapore Gaol, no case of this disease occurred throughout the Settlements, though seven deaths are recorded from this cause amongst passengers landed at the Quarantine Station on St. John's Island.

Chicken-pox and Measles were not, perhaps, more prevalent than usual.

Beri-beri appears to be on the decline, and the mortality from this cause is considerably lower than it has been in recent years.

Hydrophobia.—Not one case of this disease is reported from any of the Settlements, showing beyond dispute the value of the stringent regulations relating to the ownership and custody of dogs.

The District Officer, Dindings, reports that his district has been exceptionally healthy throughout the year, particularly the new town of Lumut, and that malarial fever (which was formerly unhappily so prevalent in the district) was almost unknown.

37. Appended are tables showing—

A.—Crude birth and death rates.

B.—Special death-rate (racial).

C.—Deaths due to the more important specific infectious diseases.

A.—Crude Birth-rate.

Settlement.	Ratio per Mille.	
	1892.	1891.
Singapore - -	18·02	16·20
Penang - - -	19·33	18·35
Province Wellesley -	30·17	29·48
Dindings - -	28·76	31·80
Malacca - -	39·09	29·83

A.—Crude Death-rate.

Settlement.	Ratio per Mille.	
	1892.	1891.
Singapore - - -	30·45	34·9
Penang- - - -	33·13	40·29
Province Wellesley - -	30·43	31·88
Dindings - - -	21·07	29·32
Malacca - - -	30·14	29·16

B.—Special Death-rate (Racial).

Settlement.	Europeans.		Eurasians.		Chinese.		Malays.		Indians.		Other Nationalities.	
	Ratio per Mille.		Ratio per Mille.		Ratio per Mille.		Ratio per Mille.		Ratio per Mille.		Ratio per Mille.	
	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.
Singapore - -	14·84	12·75	20·89	35·66	30·73	37·60	33·03	33·11	29·62	25·82	32·09	36·03
Penang -	17·27	30·59	32·16	26·92	35·38	48·25	21·90	29·43	34·19	37·50	66·04	29·66
Province Wellesley -	—	13·8	15·68	14·76	30·33	32·01	23·64	27·08	57·37	61·06	76·23	25·12
Dindings - -	—	—	—	—	34·33	54·32	18·79	20·81	—	31·49	—	—
Malacca -	17·69	8·84	41·92	39·03	37·40	45·77	27·68	24·43	40·92	33·59	68·48	109·58

C.—Deaths due to the more important Specific Infectious Diseases

Settlement.	Small-pox.		Cholera.		Beri-beri.	
	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.
Singapore - - - -	22	14	7	53	229	362
Penang - - -	131	11	—	37	50	88
Province Wellesley - -	121	21	—	42	47	31
Dindings - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malacca - - - -	3	9	—	85	56	101

38. The following table gives the number of patients treated in all Government hospitals, and of the deaths among them, during 1892, as compared with 1891 :—

	Number of Patients treated.			Number of Deaths.			Percentage of Deaths to Total treated.		
	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	Total.
1892 - - -	809	21,822	22,631	31	2,220	2,251	3·83	10·17	9·94
1891 - - -	944	22,176	23,120	43	2,710	2,753	4·55	12·22	11·90

39. The number of patients treated and the deaths that occurred in hospital in each of the Settlements were as follows :—

Settlement.	Total treated.	Deaths.
Singapore - - - -	10,573	891
Penang and the Dindings - -	6,338	764
Province Wellesley - -	2,340	418
Malacca - - - -	3,381	178

40. The numbers in the Leper Hospital, Singapore, and Leper Asylum, Penang, during 1891 and 1892, were as follows :—

Hospitals.	1891.				1892.			
	Cases.	Died.	Discharged or absconded.	Remained.	Cases.	Died.	Discharged, absconded, or transferred.	Remained.
Leper Hospital - -	155	49	49	57	165	33	100	32
Leper Asylum, Pulau Jerejak -	353	123	—	230	475	122	—	353

BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE.

41. The total number of receiving orders made and proceeded with during the year is shown in the following table :—

	No. of Proceedings.	No. of Debtors.
In Singapore - - -	32	41
In Penang - - - -	9	9
In Malacca - - - -	—	—
Total - -	41	50

In 1891 the number of the proceedings was 59, and the number of debtors 76.

Liabilities according to the debtors' estimates amounted to $667,305, as against $2,687,114 in 1891, and the proofs lodged with the Official Assignee gave a total of $663,242, as against $3,903,062 in 1891.

During the year a committee of the Legislative Council sat to enquire into the working of the Ordinance, and their report was laid before the Legislative Council during the beginning of the current year.

It may be remarked that in the Colony the chief difficulty which has to be overcome in the realization of Chinese bankrupt estates is the collection of debts due to the bankrupts in foreign ports, and this is a difficulty which practically cannot be remedied by legislation.

REGISTRATION OF JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

42. Four joint-stock companies were registered at Singapore during the year 1892, with a total nominal capital of $665,000, while three companies went into voluntary liquidation. The amount of fees collected was $420.

At Penang no companies were registered.

METEOROLOGY.

43. The following statement shows the temperature of the air at each of the Settlements during the year :—

	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
	Fahr. °	Fahr. °	Fahr. °
Singapore - - - -	86·8	73·5	79·4
Penang - - - - -	88·1	74·6	80·3
Province Wellesley - - -	93·1	73·4	81·2
Malacca - - - -	88·8	68·0	78·3

44. Returns of rainfall for the whole year were received from 49 stations in the Colony. The heaviest rainfall was in Singapore.

The following table shows the mean total rainfall at each of the Settlements, the maximum and minimum rainfall registered in one month, and the maximum in 24 hours :—

Settlement.	Total Rainfall.	Maximum Fall in one Month.	Minimum Fall in one Month.	Maximum Fall in 24 hours.
	Inches.	Ins.	Ins.	Inches.
Singapore - -	99·70	Dec. - 21·03	Feb. - 0·84	9·30
Penang - -	93·99	Oct. - 19·06	Jan. - 0·35	5·40
Province Wellesley.	75·05	May. - 14·65	Jan. - 0·05	5·25
Malacca -	78·35	Aug. - 26·35	July - 0·25	10·00
Dindings - -	99·09	May. - 18·22	Mar. - 1·79	5·80

POLICE AND CRIME.

45. The following table shows the strength and distribution of the Police Force in 1892 :—

Settlement.	Europeans.			Native Contingent.		Sikh Contingent.		Total.
	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Men.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Men.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Men.	
Singapore - - -	13	6	30	64	700	6	105	924
Penang - - -	17	4	24	71	689	6	73	884
Malacca - - -	5	2	—	30	226	4	34	301
Grand total -	35	12	54	165	1,615	16	212	2,109

A reduction in the strength of the force in Malacca of 8 corporals and 27 constables was made in consequence of the closing of certain country stations.

The Chinese contingent, which was introduced in Singapore in 1890, has not proved a success, and consequently the vacancies caused by dismissals, &c. have not been filled up.

One hundred and ninety-four (194) men were dismissed from the force during the year for police offences, and 113 were sent for trial before the magistrates.

Twenty-four thousand three hundred and eighty-seven (24,387) cases were arrested during the year, as against 25,400 in 1891. Thirteen thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight (13,858) offences were reported to the Police, as against 12,828 in 1891, of which 4,033 remained undiscovered. A large proportion of the reports made at police stations are of a most trivial nature, and many of them are either untrue or gross exaggerations.

Seventeen (17) reports of culpable homicide were made at police stations. Twelve (12) cases of murder were sent for trial, and 9 of gang robbery. There were 13 cases of gang robbery reported to the police, several of which, in Singapore, were cases of robbery, but certainly not of "gang robbery." The actual number of cases of gang robbery was 9, viz., 2 in Singapore, 6 in Penang, and 1 in Malacca.

The Colony has been free from serious disturbances of any kind.

JUDICIAL.

46. The following tables contain returns for 1891 and 1892, of the cases dealt with by the Supreme Court on the Civil and

Criminal sides, by the Courts of Requests, and by the Police and Marine Magistrates:—

SUPREME COURT. Criminal Side.	1891. No. of Prisoners.				1892. No. of Prisoners.			
	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
1. Culpable homicide:								
Convicted	1	3	-	4	-	2	-	2
Acquitted	-	8	-	8	1	1	2	4
2. Culpable homicide not amounting to murder:								
Convicted	3	1	-	4	-	8	1	9
Acquitted	2	-	1	3	1	12	2	15
3. Attempt to murder:								
Convicted	1	4	1	6	4	2	-	6
Acquitted	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	1
4. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt:								
Convicted	6	5	1	12	10	11	12	33
Acquitted	1	1	2	4	5	2	4	11
5. Unnatural offences:								
Convicted	-	2	-	2	4	-	-	4
Acquitted	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
6. Other offences against person:								
Convicted	16	14	1	31	20	24	-	44
Acquitted	2	18	-	20	7	18	-	25
7. Gang robbery:								
Convicted	7	5	6	18	10	15	-	25
Acquitted	-	7	-	7	-	7	-	7
8. Theft, housebreaking, &c.:								
Convicted	13	27	5	45	17	31	1	49
Acquitted	5	17	-	22	4	9	1	14
9. Other offences against property:								
Convicted	19	11	1	31	15	20	2	37
Acquitted	8	9	-	17	6	16	4	26
10. Miscellaneous offences:								
Convicted	18	9	-	27	18	12	-	30
Acquitted	5	15	2	22	12	11	2	25
Total Convicted	84	81	15	180	98	125	16	239
Total Acquitted	23	77	5	105	38	76	15	129
Grand total	107	158	20	285	136	201	31	368

SUPREME COURT. Civil Side.	Civil Actions, 1891.						Civil Actions, 1892.					
	Pending.	Commenced.	Debt or Damages claimed.	Compromised, Dismissed, &c.	Adjudicated.	Pending.	Pending.	Commenced.	Debt or Damages claimed.	Compromised, Dismissed, &c.	Adjudicated.	Pending.
			$						$			
Singapore - - -	936	1,630	2,780,568	870	1,295	401	401	1,389	1,890,358	582	721	487
Penang - - -	690	1,071	2,168,685	595	595	571	571	1,014	2,229,157	649	551	385
Malacca - - -	69	161	89,550	89	82	59	59	118	42,531	50	81	46
Total - -	1,695	2,862	5,038,803	1,554	1,972	1,031	1,031	2,521	4,162,046	1,281	1,353	918

	Probate and Administration.			
	1891.		1892.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		$		$
Singapore - -	114	703,738	134	786,614
Penang - - -	457	354,730	576	928,535
Malacca - - -	61	118,975	47	752,204
Total - -	632	1,177,443	757	2,467,353

POLICE AND MARINE MAGISTRATES' COURTS. No. of Offenders dealt with.	1891.					1892.				
	Committed for Trial.	Convicted or bound over.	Discharged.	Undecided.	Total.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted or bound over.	Discharged.	Undecided.	Total.
Singapore -	128	17,257	4,974	—	22,359	133	16,802	5,262	—	22,197
Penang -	153	17,194	6,648	107	24,102	209	15,513	7,338	170	23,230
Malacca -	25	1,794	935	—	2,754	32	1,575	781	—	2,388
Total -	306	36,245	12,557	107	49,215	374	33,890	13,381	170	47,815

COURTS OF REQUESTS. (Jurisdiction up to $50.)	1891.		1892.	
	Number of Cases.	Amount of Debt or Damages.	Number of Cases.	Amount of Debt or Damages.
		$ c.		$ c.
Singapore - -	4,426	58,936 74	4,782	59,726 15
Penang - - -	3,829	45,799 96½	3,296	43,054 18½
Province Wellesley -	753	13,496 57	846	16,698 54
Malacca - - -	1,338	13,656 44	816	9,718 13½
Total - -	10,346	131,889 71½	9,740	129,197 1

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 1892.

INQUESTS.

47. Return of Inquests held in the Colony of the Straits Settlements during the year 1892:—

Verdict.	Singapore.	Penang and Dindings.	Province Wellesley.	Malacca.	Total.
Homicide, culpable -	8	11	5	7	31
„ justifiable -	—	1	—	—	1
„ by misadventure - -	1	1	—	—	2
Suicide - -	10	18	24	1	53
Death in pursuance of judicial sentence -	—	2	—	—	2
Natural causes, accidental, &c. - -	152	37	48	22	259
Found dead, causes unknown, &c. -	32	12	11	10	65
Total - -	203	82	88	40	413

PRISONS.

48. The health of the prisoners in the three Settlements was good during the year, although the death-rate at Singapore was rather heavy during the very wet weather towards the end of the year. The number of deaths was, at Singapore 39 and at Penang 7, while at Malacca there were none. Three suicides occurred in the Penang prison, and two convicts escaped, one of whom was re-captured. There were two executions at Penang in October. The Inspector of Prisons in his annual report, speaking of the Singapore prison, where all prisoners sentenced to more than six months' imprisonment are sent, reports as follows:—

"There has been no suicide, no serious assault, no escape during the year, the daily average of prisoners decreased considerably towards the close of the year, and offences are fewer in proportion to the number in prison."

The number of prisoners in the Singapore prison on the 31st December 1892, was 890.

(Signed) W. E. MAXWELL,
Colonial Secretary.

Singapore, 10th April 1893.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

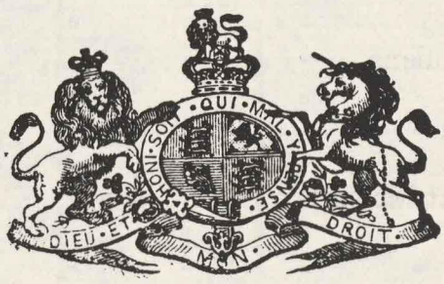
No. 66.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 21.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1893.



LONDON:
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1893.

[C.—6857.–16.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890-91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1980–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	"
51	Leeward Islands	"
52	Grenada	"
53	St. Lucia	"
54	Labuan	"
55	British Guiana	"
56	Zululand	"
57	Mauritius	"
58	Lagos	"
59	Straits Settlements	"
60	Ceylon	"
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	"
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	"
65	Jamaica	1891–92

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests

No. 66.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 21.]

Sir F. NAPIER BROOME to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, Government House, December 12, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Trinidad and Tobago Blue Book for the year 1891, which has unavoidably been delayed to this very late date by the great and exceptional pressure upon the Government Printing Office, arising out of the Judicial Inquiry Commission, the Registry of the Supreme Court Commission, the Census, and other heavy work.

2. I assumed this Government on the 19th of August 1891, and was thus only four months and a half in office during the year under review. As during this period I was necessarily employed chiefly in acquainting myself with the business affairs and circumstances of the Colony, this report will not be so full as I hope to make the next. I now proceed with some remarks under the usual headings.

Taxes and Duties.

3. No new general taxes were imposed during 1891, but in order to adjust the account kept between the planters and the Government of the expenditure incurred upon Indian immigration, it became necessary to increase the special export duty on sugar, rum, cocoa, and coffee, as follows:—

Sugar, on every	1,000 lbs.,	an increased duty of	3*d.*
Rum, „ „	100 galls.,	„	„	4*d.*
Cocoa, „ „	100 lbs.,	„	„	1*d.*
Coffee, „ „	100 lbs.,	„	„	1*d.*

No change was made in the Immigration Tax of one shilling per thousand levied on cocoanuts.

4. The schedule of fees authorised to be received in the various departments remained the same as in 1890.

I 74830. Wt. 10230.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1891.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of 1891 was 492,784*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* and the expenditure 501,883*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*, showing an excess of disbursements over receipts amounting to 9,099*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* Owing, however, to cash previously in hand, about 10,565*l.* of surplus and available funds remained in the Treasury on the 31st of December. On my arrival here, at the end of August, I was assured that the Government had 60,000*l.* surplus in hand, and I was under that impression when, on the 22nd of September, I consented to an appropriation of 3,000*l.* for the representation of the Colony at the Chicago Exhibition. An examination of the finances soon showed that nothing like 60,000*l.* of surplus cash existed.

6. The revenue exceeded the estimate by 4,319*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* and was 24,224*l.* 14*s.* 7½*d.*, in excess of the receipts of 1890. The principal items contributing to this increase were:—

	Receipts in 1890.	Receipts in 1891.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	185,222	193,440	8,218
Court Fees, &c. - -	9,266	13,979	4,713
Reimbursements in aid - - -	11,643	26,330	14,687
Asphalt Dues - - - -	26,744	31,988	5,244

but there was a falling off in the receipts under the following heads:—

	Receipts in 1890.	Receipts in 1891.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Excise - - - - -	154,871	148,773	6,098
Post Office - - - -	7,732	7,461	271
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	3,394	2,220	1,174
Land sales - - - -	10,782	7,927	2,855

7. The apparently large increase in the receipts under the head of reimbursements in aid was caused by nominal entries of 9,797*l.* for the transport train and 4,565*l.* for hospital stores figuring in the 1891 receipts.

8. The expenditure exceeded the estimate by 19,858*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*, and exceeded the actual disbursements of 1890 by 26,639*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*

This increased expenditure occurred principally under the following heads:—

Service.	Expenditure in 1890.	Expenditure in 1891.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Charges on account of Public Debt -	34,841	35,387	546
Pensions - - - -	10,479	10,959	480
Immigration - - - -	18,347	24,777	6,430
Customs - - -	11,362	16,546	5,184
Crown Lands and Survey Department -	7,246	8,963	1,717
Judicial - - - -	22,634	23,718	1,084
Education - - - -	30,893	37,296	6,403
Police - - - -	39,167	42,636	3,469
Prisons - - - - -	12,050	13,259	1,209
Railway - - - -	41,577	43,517	1,940
Miscellaneous - - - -	10,425	13,643	3,218
Military Department - - -	5,186	6,772	1,586
Public Works Department - -	7,267	8,609	1,342

9. I append a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the last 10 years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1882 - - - -	400,936	406,153
1883 - - - -	419,573	433,017
1884 - - - -	435,381	420,569
1885 - - - -	398,100	413,785
1886 - - - -	425,896	412,167
1887 - - - -	456,167	424,594
1888 - - - -	457,814	440,636
1889 - - - -	453,275	463,221
1890 - - - -	468,559	475,244
1891 - - - -	492,784	501,884

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1891.

10. On the 31st December 1891 the Assets and Liabilities of the Colony amounted respectively to 323,814*l.* and 306,151*l.* showing a balance in favour of the Colony of 17,663*l*

Public Debt.

11. The Public Debt at the end of 1891 stood at 520,420*l.* debentures to the amount of 11,900*l.* having been redeemed during the year. Though the debt only commenced to accumulate in 1874 a sum of 106,580*l.* has been already repaid.

12. No fresh loan was issued during the year, but advances were made by the Crown Agents to the amount of 56,000*l.* on account of the Public Works and Road Loan of 100,000*l.* authorised by the Ordinance No. 9 of 1890, but not issued on account of the unfavourable condition of the market. This loan has since been taken up at an average price of 102*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* per cent.

Legislation.

13. Twenty-five Ordinances were enacted during the year. These were :—

No. 1. To repeal the Ordinance No. 24 of 1875 intituled, "An Ordinance to amend No. 6 of 1870," intituled "An Ordinance with regard to Education."

2. For the suppression of certain practices during the Carnival.

3. To commute for a fixed sum certain charges heretofore payable by the Mayor and Burgesses of the borough of San Fernando in respect of education, vaccination public hospitals, and relief of the poor.

4. To vest the San Fernando almshouse in Her Majesty the Queen.

5. To amend the Law regulating the distillation of rum and other spirits.

To further amend "The Civil Service Widows' and Orphans' Fund Ordinance, 1890."

7. To enable the Registrar of the Supreme Court to undertake the office of Marshal.

8. To amend "The Post Office Ordinance, 1890."

9. To amend the Ordinance No. 31 of 1890, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Road Extension and Public Works Loan Ordinance, 1890."

10. To amend "The Building Societies Ordinance, 1890."

No. 11. To declare the powers of Stipendiary and other justices of the peace in cases affecting Crown Lands and to make further provisions in relation thereto.

12. To amend "The Elementary Education Ordinance, 1890."

13. To amend "The Tobago Fire Ordinance, 1890."

14. To empower the Governor to order the transfer of children detained in Industrial and Reformatory Schools to Hospitals or Asylums.

15. For the Incorporation of "The People's Bank of Trinidad (Limited and Co-operative)."

16. To further provide for the constitution of a volunteer force.

17. To extend the powers of the engineer and general superintendent of the Trinidad Government Railway in prosecutions for breaches of the byelaws of the said railway.

18. Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance, 1890.

19. To amend "The Lunatics Ordinance, 1877," in its application to Tobago.

20. To amend "The Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, 1889."

21. To extend the powers of "The Public Works and Road Loan Board."

22. To enable the Governor to issue Commissions of Inquiry with special powers.

23. To consolidate and amend the Law as to the Marriages and Divorces of Indian Immigrants.

24. For raising funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1892.

25. Appropriation Ordinance.

14. Ordinances Nos. 3 and 4 were passed with the object of affording to the borough of San Fernando relief from certain charges for education, hospitals, and paupers which Lord Knutsford concurred with my predecessor, Sir William Robinson, in thinking might equitably be borne by the general revenue.

15. Ordinance No. 5, amended the Law relating to distilleries in some minor matters, and defined more clearly the responsibility of the distiller for rum in transit in his custody from the distillery to the excise warehouse. Cases had arisen in which it was found impossible to recover the duty on rum supposed to have been stolen

in such transit, and it became necessary to fix the responsibility, as has been done, on the distiller. Since the date of this legislation, a comprehensive codified Excise Law has been enacted

16. By Ordinance 12 amendments were made in the Elementary Education Ordinance of 1890, providing for the establishment of a separate Education Board for Tobago, creating an intermediate class of teachers between pupil teachers and third-class certificated teachers, authorising the retention by the school managers of the fees paid by the scholars, raising the compulsory average daily attendance from 25 to 40, and giving the Board of Education greater power in the matter of the establishment of schools for Indian children and in districts where the compulsory average daily attendance cannot be reached. Our education system works with friction and difficulty, and I think it well worth considering whether the assisted elementary schools, which are the chief problem, could not best be administered by dividing the grant on a census basis among the denominations, leaving each to carry on their own schools in their own way and on their own responsibility, subject to the necessary Government rules and inspection.

17. Ordinance No. 16 was enacted with the object of placing the Volunteer Forces on a more permanent and organised footing. It provides that all future members of the force must undertake to serve for a period of three years, power being reserved to grant discharges in certain cases.

18. The most important Ordinance enacted during the year was No. 23 "To consolidate and amend the Law as to the Marriages and Divorces of Indian Immigrants." It affects the interests of one-third of the population, and it received very careful consideration. It is to be hoped that this measure will tend to remedy social evil and consequent crime among the Indian immigrants.

Political Franchise.

19. The following return will show the position of the three municipalities to which charters have been granted.

Borough.	Revenue, 1891.	Expenditure 1891.	Debt.	No. of Electors.	Votes recorded at last Election.
	£	£	£		
Port of Spain - - -	23,726*	23,050	33,800	628	84
San Fernando - - -	5,807	5,155	—	105	67
Arima - - - -	1,250	1,237	167	32	32

* 6,500*l.* being proceeds of a loan.

20. It will be seen that, except in the recently created borough of Arima, where special reasons existed last year for exceptional activity, the burgesses do not appear to take the general interest in electoral proceedings which might be expected.

Councils.

21. Colonel Alexander Man took his seat on the 3rd of September as a member of the Executive Council in virtue of his appointment as Commandant of the local forces in the place of Lieut-Colonel McInnis transferred to British Guiana; and in the Legislative Council Mr. A. P. Marryat was appointed on the 22nd of September to represent the Ward Unions of Chaguanas, Couva, and Montserrat in the place of the late Mr. George Fitt.

Civil Establishment.

22. Sir William Robinson's term of office expired during the year, and, as previously stated, his Excellency was succeeded in the Government on the 19th day of August by myself. In the interval which elapsed between the departure of the late Governor on the 30th of July and my arrival, and again during my absence on vacation leave from the 24th of September to the 11th of November, the Government was administered by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. H. Fowler.

23. Other changes in the chief departments of Government occurred during the year.

24. By a rearrangement of offices, Mr. D. B. Horsford, the Marshal, was appointed to the office of Registrar-General, and the duties of the Marshal were transferred to Mr. C. H. Phillips, Registrar of the Supreme Court and Registrar in Bankruptcy.

25. Colonel J. A. Man assumed the command of the local forces in the place of Lieut.-Colonel McInnis, promoted to British Guiana.

26. Mr. R. G. Bushe was appointed Inspector of Schools in the place of Mr. R. J. L. Guppy, retired on a pension, and the office of second master of the Royal College thus rendered vacant was filled by the appointment of Mr. W. Burslem.

27. Mr. T. C. Rayner was appointed to the office of Stipendiary Justice of the Peace for San Fernando, &c. in succession to Mr. A. Child promoted to St. Lucia.

28. Inspector Owen, Sub-Inspector Brierly, and Sergeant-Majo Giblan received promotion in consequence of the retirement on a pension of Mr. R. H. FitzSimons, the Senior Inspector of Police

and the strength of the force was increased by the addition of six sergeants, superintendent, and six sergeants from the Royal Irish Constabulary.

29. On the promotion of Mr. G. W. Dickson to British Guiana the office of Assistant Director of Public Works was abolished.

30. Mr. J. Dickson was appointed a supernumerary Government Medical Officer, and Mr, G, F. Bowen Secretary to the Board of Education,

Pensions.

31. The following additions were made to the pension list during the year:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. R. L. Guppy, Inspector of Schools -	500	0	0
Mrs. McCabe, Matron, Colonial Hospital -	99	3	6
Mr. J. R. Marquez, French and Spanish Master, Queen's Royal College - - -	83	6	8
Mrs. Priscilla Huggins, Assistant Superintendent, House of Refuge - - - -	20	0	0
Mr. A. B. Cuffy, Sub-Postmaster, Carapichaima	13	10	3
R. H. FitzSimons, Inspector of Police - -	500	0	0
J. S. Edwards, Warder, Royal Gaol - -	33	18	4
F. Manuel, Hindustani Interpreter, Port of Spain - - - - -	23	8	9
Sir H. Ludlow, Attorney General - -	250	0	0
Mr. S. A. Isaacs, 2nd Messenger, Colonial Secretary's Department - - -	26	13	4
Additional Police Superannuation Allowances -	175	10	5½
	£1,725	11	3½

But the list was reduced by the death of the under-mentioned pensioners:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. M. Thomas - - - -	420	0	0
Mr. S. Luard - - - - -	49	3	4
Mr. H. A. Fitt - - - -	314	5	9
	£783	9	1

Vital Statistics.

32. The Census taken in the early part of the year proved that the estimate made in preceding years of the growth of the population was excessive, for the population was found to number only 200,028, as follows:—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
General population - -	65,521	64,297	129,818
Indian population - - -	42,899	27,311	70,210
	108,420	91,608	200,028

This represents a population of 115·75 to the square mile.

33. The births numbered 7,678, the marriages 981, and the deaths 6,105. These were divided between the two sections of the community in the following proportions:—

——	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
General population (mean 131,741) - - - -	5,083	892	3,945
Indian population - - -	2,112	89	1,679
	7,195	981	5,624

In addition to these births and deaths 481 still births were registered, 319 occurring among the general population and 162 among the Indian. The percentage given by these figures are:—

——	Births.	Still Births.	Persons Married.	Deaths.
General population - - -	3·86	·24	1·35	2·99
Indian population - - -	3·0	·23	·25	2·38

Imports and Exports.

34. The Imports of the year reached a value of 2,096,797*l.* and the Exports 2,058,761*l.*, but if the value of the bullion and specie is not taken into account these figures are reduced to 1,793,535*l.* and 1,716,851*l.* respectively.

35. I append a statement of the Imports and Exports of the last 10 years:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.
1882 - - -	2,399,795	1,612,564	2,452,033	1,729,418
1883 - - -	2,663,022	1,693,264	2,686,670	1,759,376
1884 - - -	3,083,870	1,831,903	2,769,727	1,581,092
1885 - - -	2,241,478	1,512,314	2,246,664	1,539,243
1886 - - -	2,503,514	1,543,507	2,509,140	1,560,336
1887 - - -	1,918,670	1,647,029	1,870,612	1,654,269
1888 - - -	1,943,789	1,678,972	2,132,761	1,904,192
1889 - - -	2,093,932	1,679,944	2,308,832	1,856,651
1890 - - -	2,248,893	1,831,803	2,179,432	1,765,931
1891 - - -	2,096,797	1,793,535	2,058,761	1,716,851

From this statement it will be seen that in addition to the falling off in the Imports and Exports of bullion and specie, there were decreases of 38,268*l.* and 49,080*l.* in other articles of commerce.

36. The principal articles which contributed to the decrease in the Imports were butter, leather, matches, cocoanut oil, lumber, coal, cocoa, dried fish, hides, live stock, salted meat, manure, patent fuel, and vegetable products unenumerated.

37. Among the Exports there was a decrease in bitters, cocoa, hides, and molasses.

The following are the statistics of 1890 and 1891 as regards sugar and cocoa exported:—

Cocoa.

Years.	Pounds.	Value.
		£
1890 - - - - - - - -	21,552,592	531,025
1891 - - - - - - - -	16,188,493	439,786

Sugar.

Years.	Pounds.	Value.
		£
1890 - - - - - - - -	115,239,227	630,815
1891 - - - - - - - -	101,601,371	662,789

38. From the following statement of the quantities of the principal staples exported during the last 10 years, it will be seen that the crops of the year 1891 were considerably below those of 1890.

Year.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Cocoa.
	Lbs.	Galls.	Galls.	Lbs.
1882 - - -	123,931,724	2,067,859	1,909	10,972,687
1883 - - -	122,070,784	1,982,176	2,394	11,649,785
1884 - - -	136,552,804	2,245,650	43,581	12,098,770
1885 - - -	142,641,411	2,416,761	72,525	13,729,565
1886 - - -	108,523,940	2,220,288	16,181	17,913,037
1887 - - -	149,800,919	2,542,225	35,571	11,927,067
1888 - - -	122,491,220	1,948,569	97,974	21,352,312
1889 - - -	112,368,762	2,234,724	20,015	15,335,228
1890 - - -	115,239,227	2,024,884	20,469	21,552,593
1891 - - -	101,601,371	1,538,415	15,386	16,188,493

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Coffee.	Asphalt.			Cocoanuts.	Bitters and Liquors.
	Lbs.	Total.	Raw.	Boiled.	No.	Galls.
		Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		
1882 -	38,204	30,760	—	—	8,071,435	30,633
1883 -	40,822	38,145	—	—	8,826,500	32,925
1884 -	14,960	—	33,383	6,562	11,276,339	32,381
1885 -	20,270	—	28,505	6,731	9,645,700	32,240
1886 -	20,052	35,671	30,255	5,416	9,013,200	35,355
1887 -	8,380	43,099	35,070	8,027	7,365,295	35,143
1888 -	4,480	52,028	40,792	11,236	12,366,592	42,830
1889 -	29,774	78,124	66,565	11,559	11,495,471	43,692
1890 -	12,597	78,841	68,201	10,640	12,739,904	43,266
1891 -	8,325	95,990	85,958	10,834	14,334,054	35,764

39. As previously stated, there was an increased revenue derived from Customs Duties of 8,218*l.* The articles on which this extra duty was collected were, corn and oats, hardware, muskets and guns, malt liquor, opium, rice, rum, tea, brandy, gin, tobacco and wines in wood. There were decreased receipts however from butter, earthenware, flour, leather, matches, cocoanut oil, and lumber.

40. The revenue derived from the exports of asphalt from the Pitch Lake continues steadily to increase, the receipts for 1891 being 32,000*l.*, or 5,397*l.* in excess of the previous year.

Shipping.

41. The shipping returns for the year are:—

SHIPS ENTERED.

—	British.		Foreign.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing Vessels -	590	57,983	1,485	92,240	2,075	150,223
Steamers -	282	339,021	166	153,069	448	492,090
Total -	872	397,004	1,651	245,309	2,523	642,313

SHIPS CLEARED.

—	BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		TOTAL.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing Vessels -	558	42,339	1,477	96,372	2,035	138,711
Steamers - -	282	341,814	167	153,408	449	495,222
Total -	840	384,153	1,644	249,780	2,484	633,933

These show a total tonnage of 1,276,246, which is 624 tons less than that of the vessels entered and cleared in 1890.

Criminal Statistics.

42. The following returns show the number of offences committed and convictions during the last 10 years:—

Year.	Offences	Convictions.		
		In Magistrates' Courts.	In Supreme Court.	Total.
1882 - - - -	16,163	9,404	123	9,527
1883 - - - -	17,705	9,132	114	9,246
1884 - - -	16,802	10,212	152	10,374
1885 - - - -	14,862	9,855	120	9,975
1886 - - - -	15,073	9,941	107	10,048
1887 - - - -	14,083	8,888	85	8,973
1888 - - - -	16,677	8,534	118	8,652
1889 - - - -	14,305	9,717	108	9,825
1890 - - - -	14,718	10,082	105	10,187
1891 - - - -	16,169	9,668	145	9,183

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1891.

43. The following is a return of percentages of offences and convictions during 1881 and 1891 :—

Year.	Percentage of Offences to the Population.	Percentage of Convictions.		
		In Magistrates' Courts.	In Supreme Court.	Total.
1881 - - - -	10·88	5·86	·065	5·89
1891 - - - -	8·08	4·83	·072	4·91

54. It will be observed that there was an increase in the number of convictions before the Supreme Court. A comparison of the figures with those of 1890 show that the increase under the heads of "Murder," "Offences against the person," and "Robbery with violence," was as follows :—

Year.	No. of cases before the Court.	Murder.	Manslaughter and attempted Murder.	Murder of Wife.	Offences against the Person.	Injury to Property.	Robbery with violence.	Other offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.
1890 - - -	193	—	12	2	97	1	5	40	35
1891 - - -	266	4	7	2	120	7	23	44	59

45. The crime of wife murder, which occurs almost entirely among the Indian immigrants, continues on the calendar ; but it will be seen from the following return that the condition of things which formerly prevailed has improved :—

——	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
Cases of wife murder -	4	5	1	4	9	-	2	-	2	2	2

46. The number of prisoners in custody in the Royal Gaol on the 31st December 1891 was 463, being 50 more than the number in prison at the commencement of the year. The daily average number of prisoners for the year was 462, being 19 more than in 1890 and four more than the average of the preceding

four years. This average was made up of 426 males and 36 females. The daily cost of each prisoner was 1*s.* 2¾*d.*, or, exclusive of the pay of the staff, 7½*d.* The estimated value of the prisoners' labour was 7,570*l.*, and the total expenditure on prisons, inclusive of the staff, 10,465*l.*

General Remarks.

47. The health of the Colony in 1891 was good, and there was no outbreak of epidemic disease.

48. The following were the transactions of the Railway and Savings Bank Departments in 1890 and 1891 :—

Railway.

Year.	Passenger Receipts.	Goods Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - - - -	32,585	19,487	52,072
1891 - - - -	32,709	18,445	51,154

Savings Banks.

Year.	Deposits.	Withdrawals.
	£	£
1890 - - - - -	120,094	103,769
1891 - - - - -	111,398	115,417

49. On the other hand there was no falling off in the receipts from land sales which reached the figure of 11,301*l.*, being an increase of 523*l.* on the receipts of 1890.

50. The immigrants, 685 in number, who returned to India by the ship "Erne" in September, took back with them a sum of 11,110*l.*

51. The following were events of importance during 1891.

52. A lamentable fire occurred in Port of Spain early in the year in which 12 Venezuelans, visitors to the Island, lost their lives. The sympathy of the Colony was expressed by a special resolution of the Legislative Council.

53. Shortly after my arrival, it became my duty to lay before your Lordship's predecessor, in the strongest way, the state of

things arising out of complaint which had been made regarding the administration of justice in the Supreme Court.

The result was that the request of the Legislative Council for an inquiry was acceded to. As the Judicial Inquiry Commission did not reach the Colony until 1892, I need not refer to it in this report.

54. The Imperial War Department having made a claim upon the Colony for 40,000*l.* for the St. James Barracks and lands, I respectfully urged reasons why the claim, in my humble judgment, should not be made. The correspondence is still proceeding.

55. The Legislative Council, in September, liberally voted 1,000*l.* in aid of the sufferers by the hurricane at Martinique.

56. In the same month, the Council expressed their approval of a scheme for the construction, as a private undertaking, of deep water wharves at Chaguaramas Bay, connected with Port of Spain by a line of railway 12 miles in length. The details of this scheme have since been the subject of lengthened consideration, and appear nearly settled.

57. In December the Legislative Council and the Government accepted the terms proposed by the United States Government for the withdrawal of duties, amounting to about 15,000*l.* a year, on certain American goods, in consideration of the admission of Trinidad sugar duty free to the United States.

58. These are all the remarks I need make on the year 1891 during which the industries and commerce of the Island pursued their way under some difficulty and depression, but with their accustomed energy and enterprise, and wrested a fair reward from circumstances which, on the whole, were rather adverse than favourable.

59. Trinidad offers the world chiefly sugar, cocoa, and pitch. Tracts of her rich soil wait the development which capital and labour can at once give, and in cocoa especially there are fortunes to be made.

60. I append a Report by the Acting Commissioner of Tobago (Mr. T. C. Rayner) on the returns relating to that Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME.

REPORT on the TOBAGO BLUE BOOK for 1891.

1. *Revenue and Expenditure.*

The total revenue during 1891 was 8,729*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.*, and the total expenditure was 8,783*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, leaving a deficiency on the year of 53*l.* 5*s.* 4½*d.*

As compared with 1890 the revenue shows an increase of 73*l.* 6*s.* 11½*d.* and the expenditure a reduction of 470*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*

2. *Assets and Liabilities.*

The liabilities at the end of 1891 were 715*l* 3*s.* 4*d.* exclusive of the Public Debt.

3. *Public Debt.*

There is a Public Debt of 5,000*l.*, lent during 1890 by the Government of Trinidad for the purpose of carrying out several public improvements, including the making of roads and bridges, the building of a wharf and jetty, and thoroughly repairing the Government buildings. No part of this debt was paid off in 1891, but 277*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* was paid for interest, being the amount due for part of 1890 and the whole of 1891.

At the end of 1891 there still remained 787*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.* of this loan unexpended.

4. *Public Works.*

During the year the sum of 971*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* was expended on public works. Of this sum 884*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.* was spent on roads and bridges, 610*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* of it being paid out of the Trinidad loan and the balance of 273*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* out of the general revenue.

The sum of 87*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* was expended out of the general revenue on repairs to public buildings.

5. *Legislation.*

During the year only two Regulations were passed by the Financial Board, one to make provision with respect to the trespass of animals, and the other a Supplementary Appropriation Regulaton.

6. *Civil Establishment.*

Dr. John Rhodes Dickson, Medical Officer of No. 3 District, received an appointment on the Trinidad Medical Staff, and Dr. R. W. C. Norman was appointed to succeed him in February 1891.

Mr. T. Newton Browne, Inspector of Police, was appointed Stipendiary Magistrate of the Windward District, and Mr. M. T. Pasea was appointed Inspector of Police and Supervisor of Excise in May 1891.

7. *Pensions.*

During the year one addition was made to the pension list, Mr. Joseph Worall, formerly Second Revenue Officer, but lately Comptrollor of Customs of the Gold Coast Colony, retired from the public service in December 1890, and was granted a pension of 16*l.* a year in respect of his former Tobago services.

One pensioner, Mr. Titzck, formerly Marshal and Postmaster, who received a pension of 100*l.* a year, died in August 1891.

The total amount of the pension list is now 398*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* a year.

8. *Population.*

According to the census taken in 1891 the total population was 18,353, being 8,640 males and 9,713 females.

According to the census of 1881 the total population was 18,051. There is therefore a small increase, 302, in the population since the last census.

During 1891 there were registered 720 births and 499 deaths.

9. *Ecclesiastical.*

There are 30 places of worship distributed among the religious denominations as follows:—

Church of England - - -	12	with 2,730	sittings.
Wesleyan Methodist - -	9	„ 2,320	„
Moravian - - - -	6	„ 2,460	„
Roman Catholic - - -	3	„ 400	„
Total - - -	30	7,910	

No grant is made from public funds to any religious organization.

10. *Education.*

According to the returns sent in there are 23 primary schools, with 2,526 scholars on the roll.

Of the 23 schools, 18 receive Government aid, and the amount of the Government Education Grant for 1891 was 480*l.*

The schools belong to the various religious denominations as follows:—

Church of England - -	13	with 1,236	scholars.
Wesleyan Methodist - -	6	„ 519	„
Moravian - - -	4	„ 771	„
Total -	23	2,526	

There are no Government schools in the Island.

11. *Imports and Exports.*

The gross value of the imports during 1891 is returnd at 23,944*l.* as against 23,403*l.* in 1890.

From the United Kingdom imports were received to the value of 14,633*l.*, as against 16,881*l.* in 1890. From the United States of America imports were received to the value of 1,232*l.* as against 1,409*l.* last year. From the British West Indies, including British Guiana, the value of the imports was 8,060*l.* as against 5,108*l.* in 1890.

The trade of Tobago is thus shown to be mainly done with the United Kingdom, and, unlike some other of the West Indies, but little of it goes to the United States.

The gross value of the exports during 1891 is returned at 24,241*l.* as against 19,371*l.* in 1890.

The staple export sugar rose in quantity from 1,129 tons in 1890 to 1,332 tons in 1891, but fell in value from 12,702*l.* to 11,993*l.*

Cocoa, which is now being extensively planted, and which it is hoped will soon become an important item in the exports, increased from 31 bags of the value of 108*l.* in 1890, to 125 bags of the value of 437*l.* in 1891.

12. *Shipping.*

During 1891, 93 vessels entered, of the aggregate tonnage of 34,071; 28 of these vessels were steamers and 65 sailing vessels.

12. *Gaols and Prisoners.*

The total number of prisoners committed in 1891 were 48 men and 34 women, total 82, six being detained for safe custody, and 76 for penal imprisonment. Of the latter 20 had been once previously convicted, 10 twice, and 10 three or more times; 65 were committed for three months or less, 9 for more than three months but for less than a year, one for under five years, and one for more than five years.

The health of the prisoners was good, only five being admitted to hospital, and there was only one death, which the coroner found to be from natural causes.

There were two escapes, and only one recapture. 77 punishments were inflicted for breaches of prison discipline, four of which were floggings.

The labour of the prisoners has been utilized in cleaning the streets and grounds attached to public buildings, in mending the streets and breaking stones, collecting and carrying firewood for the gaol and hospital, emptying latrines and digging graves for the burial of paupers. It has not been found possible, owing to the small number of prisoners, to introduce the working at trades in the gaol.

14. *Criminal Statistics.*

During 1891, 775 were brought before the Magistrates' Courts. Of these three were committed for trial by the Supreme Court, 507 were summarily convicted, and 265 were dismissed.

Sixty-two persons were sentenced to peremptory imprisonment and 27 to imprisonment in lieu of payment of a fine, or in default of finding sureties, and 396 were fined.

The following shows the number of summary convictions for the chief classes of offences:—

Assaults and other offences against the person -	56
Malicious injuries to property - - -	2
Prædial larceny - - - - -	36
Offences against property other than malicious injury or prædial larceny - - -	14
Other offences - - - - -	399
Total - -	507

Six persons were tried in the Supreme Court, the three before named, and three others who had been committed for trial at the end of 1890 but were not tried till 1891. Of these, three were convicted, two were acquitted, and a nolle prosequi was entered in the case of the other.

Comparing 1891 with previous years, there seems to be no substantial increase or decrease in crime.

15. *Hospitals.*

There is only one hospital in the island, which is at Scarborough. At the beginning of 1891 there were 15 patients in the hospital, 120 were admitted during the year, 100 were discharged, and 23 died, leaving 12 in the hospital at the end of 1891.

The daily average in the hospital was 15·6.

(Signed) T. C. RAYNER,
Acting Commissioner.

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No. 78.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 66.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1893.



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1893.

[C.—6857.–28.]

COLONIAL REPORTS

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
42	Barbados	1891
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891-92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 78.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 66.)

Sir F. NAPIER BROOME to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD, Government House, 18th May, 1893.

I HAVE the honour, I am glad to say at a much earlier date than last year, to forward the Trinidad and Tobago Blue Book, and I proceed to make the following remarks under the usual headings, upon the Returns for 1892:—

Taxes and Duties.

2. By Ordinance No. 3 of 1892, passed in January to bring the Customs Tariff into conformity with the Washington agreement with the United States Government, the following articles were admitted free of duty:—

Beef and pork preserved in cans.
Belting for machinery of leather, canvas or india-rubber.
Boats and lighters.
Bottles of glass or stoneware.
Bran middlings and shorts.
Bridges of iron or wood, or of both combined.
Brooms, brushes, and whisks of broom straw.
Candles, tallow.
Carts, waggons, cars, and barrows with or without springs, for ordinary roads and agricultural use; not including vehicles of pleasure.
Clocks, mantel or wall.
Copper, bronze, zinc, and lead articles plain and nickel plated for industrial and domestic uses, and for building.
Oil meal.
Crucibles and melting pots of all kinds.
Fishing apparatus of all kinds.
Gas fixtures and pipes.
Hay and straw for forage.
Houses of wood, complete.
India-rubber and gutta percha goods, including waterproof clothing made wholly or in part thereof.

I 77009. Wt. 10230.

Implements, utensils, and tools for agriculture, exclusive of cutlasses and forks.
Lamps and lanterns.
Medicinal extracts and preparations of all kinds, including proprietary or patent medicines, but exclusive of quinine, opium, ganga, and bhang.
Paper of all kinds for printing.
Paper of wood or straw for wrapping and packing, including surface coated or glazed.
Photographic apparatus and chemicals.
Printers' ink, all colours.
Printed matter in all languages.
Printing presses, types, rules, spaces and all accessories for printing.
Quicksilver.
Rosin, tar, pitch, and turpentine.
Salt.
Sewing machines and all parts and accessories thereof.
Ship-building materials and accessories of all kinds when used in the construction, equipment, or repair of vessels or boats of any kind, except rope and cordage of all kinds, including wire rope.
Starch.
Sulphur.
Tan bark of all kinds, whole or ground.
Telegraph wire, telegraphic, telephonic, and electrical apparatus and appliances of all kinds for communication or illumination.
Varnish, not containing spirits.
Wall papers.
Watches, when not cased in gold or silver, and watch movements uncased.
Water pipes of all classes, materials and dimensions.
Wire for fences with the hooks, staples, nails, and the like appliances for fastening the same.
Yeast cake and baking powders.
Zinc, tin, and lead, in sheets, asbestos and tar paper for roofing.

The duty on the following articles was reduced by one-half:—

Boots and shoes.
Bread and biscuit.
Cheese.
Lard and its compounds.
Oleomargarine.
Shooks and staves.

The duty on the following articles was reduced by one-fourth:—

Corn or maize.
Corn meal.

Flour of wheat,*
Lumber in rough or prepared for building.
Petroleum and its products, crude or refined.
Wheat.

3. In order to reimburse the losses caused by these exemptions and reductions, a duty of 2*s.* per ton was imposed on coal, coke and patent fuel; a duty of 10*s.* each was imposed on oxen, bulls and cows; the *ad valorem* duty was fixed at 6*l.* for every one hundred pounds of value; and the following higher rates of duties were imposed:—

	s.	*d.*
Tobacco—Unmanufactured, the pound - -	1	1
Manufactured, the pound - -	2	0
Cigars and cigarettes, the pound -	5	0
Rum, for every gallon of the strength of proof as ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer - -	7	6
All other spirits, except methylated spirits, if not exceeding the strength of proof as ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer, except tinctures admitted by the collector of customs for medicinal purposes only, the gallon - - -	10	0
And for every degree of strength beyond that above specified, an additional duty of one penny the liquid gallon.		
Opium, the pound - - - -	15	0
Wine in wood containing less than the following rates of proof spirit as verified by Sykes' hydrometer—22 degrees - - - -	0	10
32 „ - - - -	1	3
Malt liquors—		
In wood, the gallon - - - -	0	9
In bottles, the dozen reputed quart bottles - -	1	3

4. The changes in the tariff mentioned in the two preceding paragraphs produced 14,961*l.* Customs Revenue during 1892 in excess of the total amount collected during 1891.

5. The taxes levied for immigration purposes on exported produce were reduced to the following extent:—

	s.	*d.*		*s.*	*d.*	
The duty on sugar—from	3	6	to	3	0	per 1,000 lbs.
„ rum — „	4	8	„	4	0	„ 1,000 lbs.
„ cocoa— „	0	11½	„	0	10	„ 100 lbs.
„ coffee— „	0	11½	„	0	10	„ 100 lbs.

the duty upon cocoanuts remaining the same, viz., 1*s.* per 1,000.

* The duty on flour to be 3*s.* 1½*d.* per barrel.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1892.

6. By Ordinance No. 19 of 1892 fees were for the first time imposed for the undermentioned licenses :—

	£	
As distiller - - - -	10	per annum.
„ dealer - - - -	10	„
„ manufacturer of compounds -	10	„
„ retailer of methylated spirits -	2	„

and a tax of one penny was imposed on every two gallons of cordials or compounds removed from the premises of the manufacturer.

7. By Ordinance No. 1 of 1892 the excise duty on rum was raised from 6*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* per gallon. The higher duty, however, has not produced more excise revenue as yet, but seems to have turned the taste of the consumer to imported wines. This is not regrettable.

Revenue and Expenditure.

8. The revenue for the year 1892 was 563,983*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, and the expenditure 554,190*l.* 7*s.* 9½*d.*, showing, for the first time since 1888, a balance of receipts over payments, which amounted to 9,793*l.* 6*s.* 3½*d.*, attained only by the exercise of rigid economy.

9. The actual revenue exceeded the estimates by 14,454*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, and was larger than the revenue of 1891 by 71,199*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*

10. This very large increase is in a great measure due to the inclusion in the revenue of the immigration taxes, previously treated as a suspense account. These taxes amounted in 1892 to 43,753*l.* Corresponding additions appear on the expenditure side.

11. Other items which contributed to the increase were :—

	£
Customs - - - - -	16,378
Licenses, excise, &c. - - - -	9,208
Asphalt duty and royalty - - -	5,346

and there were also small increases in the revenue from the railway (835*l.*), and in fees of office, &c. (706*l.*).

12. On the other hand, a slight decrease occurred in the receipts from the Post Office (464*l.*), land sales (1,294*l.*), and one or two other minor heads of revenue.

13. The expenditure of 1892 was 1,606*l.* 11*s.* 10½*d.* less than estimated, but it exceeded the expenditure of the previous year by 52,306*l.* 16*s.* 0½*d.*

14. As in the case of the revenue, this apparent increase of expenditure has been caused by immigration and public works (transport train) expenditure, which has not heretofore been incorporated in the estimates.

15. The items in which increases occurred were:—

	£
Charges on account of public debt - -	2,279
Pensions - - - - -	182
Immigration Department - - -	42,135
Customs „ - - -	2,379
Botanical and Agricultural Department -	726
Printing „ -	800
Government Analyst's „ -	108
Medical „ -	4,706
Police „ -	946
Prisons „ -	204
Public Works „ -	9,065
Public Works (recurrent) „ -	7,278

and there were slight increases, owing to usual increments of salaries, in a few other departments.

16. The expenditure under the following heads was less than in the year 1891:—

	£
Governor and Legislature - - -	356
Post office - - - - -	355
Crown lands and surveys - - -	207
Wardens and Supervisors - - -	77
Port Department - - - -	400
Judicial „ - - - -	1,894
Education „ - - - -	5,324
Railway „ - - - -	2,367
Transport „ - - - -	849
Miscellaneous services - - - -	2,356
Military Department - - - -	1,199
Public Works extraordinary - - -	4,126

17. I append a table showing the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the last 10 years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1883	419,573	433,017
1884	435,381	420,569
1885	398,100	413,785
1886	425,896	412,167
1887	456,167	424,594
1888	457,814	440,636
1889	453,275	463,221
1890	468,559	475,244
1891	492,784	501,884
1892	563,984	554,190

18. The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st of December, 1892, were 307,892*l.* and 247,398*l.* respectively, showing a credit balance of 60,494*l.*

Public Debt.

19. The Public Debt of Trinidad stood on the 31st December, 1892, at 608,820*l.* The debt was increased during the year by a loan of 100,000*l.* for road extension and other public works, but, owing to repayments (11,600*l.*) on account of former loans, the net increase in the debt amounted only to 88,400*l.* The new loan, which bears interest at the rate of 4 per cent., was taken up at the average price of 102*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* per cent. It is nearly expended, with beneficial result. But the treasure of a kingdom might be exhausted on roads in Trinidad. I am trying to introduce a system of road boards for the local roads only. An Ordinance on the subject is now before the Legislative Council.

Legislation.

20. The legislation of the year consisted of the twenty-five Ordinances enumerated below :—

No. 1. To increase the duty on rum and other spirits distilled in the Colony.

No. 2. To amend the law as to Commissions of Enquiry with special powers.

No. 3. To repeal certain duties of Customs and to raise other duties in lieu thereof.

No. 4. To remit certain moneys owing to the Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough of San Fernando in respect of the San Fernando Tramroad and to vest certain extensions in Her Majesty the Queen.

No. 5. To authorise the payment otherwise than to Executors or Administrators of smalls sums of money due to deceased persons on account of salary or pension payable from Public Funds.

No. 6. To further amend the Ordinance No. 10 of 1853, intituled "An Ordinance for the Regulation of Municipal Corporations in this Island."

No. 7. For the regulations of Races in the Arima Savannah.

No. 8. To amend "The Streets Regulation Ordinance, 1883."

No. 9. To amend the Law of Evidence.

No. 10. To authorize the raising of a sum not exceeding 100,000*l.* by the issue of inscribed stock for Road Extension and Public Works.

No. 11. To establish a vacation in the sittings of the District Court held in Port-of-Spain.

No. 12. To control and regulate the use of certain Public Quays and Wharves.

No. 13. To amend "The Elementary Education (Amendment) Ordinance, 1891."

No. 14. To amend "The Industrial Schools Ordinance, 1876."

No. 15. Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance, 1891.

No. 16. For the better protection of the Public Health.

No. 17. To amend the law regulating the working of the system of Sugar Cane cultivation known as "The Metairie System" in Tobago.

No. 18. To suspend temporarily certain duties of Customs.

No. 19. To consolidate and amend the laws relating to the Manufacture, Removal, Warehousing and Sale of Spirits and Compounds of Spirits.

No. 20. For regulating the licensing of Hucksters, Porters and Carters plying within the limits of the Borough of Arima.

No. 21. To authorize James Stanley Toppin to lay down, work and maintain Tramways in certain parts of the Borough of Port-of-Spain and Belmont.

No. 22. To permit for a limited time the introduction free of duty of materials imported for the use of the undertakings under "The Port-of-Spain Electric Lighting Ordinance" and "The Port-of-Spain Gas Works Ordinance, 1888."

No. 23. To amend the law relating to the Diego Martin Water Works.

No. 24. For raising funds in aid of Immigration for the year 1893.

No. 25. To raise a loan of $5,000 for the Borough of Arima.

21. The more important of these measures were the following:—

No. 2. Commissions of Enquiry with special powers. Under this law a Judicial Enquiry Commission, appointed from England, and another locally appointed Commission, enquired into matters connected with the Supreme Court.

No. 16. Public Health. This Ordinance conferred ample powers upon the Government to act in cases of epidemic sickness and emergency.

No. 17. Tobago Metairie system of Cane Farming. This Ordinance was the result of a Commission of Enquiry, and of social and legal disturbances connected with the former Judiciary of the Colony.

No. 19. Excise. This last measure was a carefully considered consolidation and amendment of the pre-existing Excise law of the Colony.

Councils and Assemblies.

22. No permanent change occurred in the constitution of either of the Councils, but the following temporary appointments were made:—

IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Mr. Fowler administered the Government from the 22nd of September to the 8th of November.

Mr. H. W. Chantrell acted as Colonial Secretary from the 14th of June to the 9th of November.

Mr. G. L. Garcia acted as Attorney-General from the 21st of June to the 6th of October.

Mr. V. Brown acted as Attorney-General from the 7th of October to the 21st of December, and again from he 29th to the 31st of December.

Mr. D. B. Horsford acted as Auditor-General from the 14th of June to the 9th of November.

IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

In addition to the changes above mentioned :—

Mr. Vincent Brown acted as Solicitor-General from the 21st of June to the 6th of October.

Mr. E. Agostini acted as Solicitor-General from the 7th of October to the 21st of December, and from the 29th to the 31st of December.

Mr. H. C. Stone acted as Protector of Immigrants from the 1st of January to the 30th of April.

Mr. H. C. Stone acted as Receiver-General from the 1st of July to the 31st December.

Mr. T. C. Rayner acted as Commissioner of Tobago from the 3rd of September to the 7th of December.

Messrs. W. C. Dyett, E. Agostini, and R. Guppy acted as Unofficial Members of the Council during the absence on leave of Messrs. Fenwick, Leotaud, and Gordon.

Civil Establishment.

23. During my absence from the Colony from the 22nd of September to the 8th of November, the Government was administered by the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Henry Fowler.

24. Several important changes occurred during the year in the Judiciary, which, as already mentioned, was the subject of an enquiry by special Commissioners sent from England. Sir John Gorrie, the Chief Justice, was interdicted from duty in June. He died in August, and was succeeded in December by Sir John Tankerville Goldney, Mr. S. H. Gatty acting as Chief Justice in the interim. Mr. Justice Lumb was appointed to Jamaica in October, and Mr. Justice Cook, after having been suspended from office, was finally removed from the Bench in November. Mr. Nathaniel Nathan has been appointed a Puisne Judge and assumed the office on the 1st of March, 1893, but the appointment of Second Puisne Judge is still vacant. Mr. C. H. Phillips, the Registrar of the Supreme Court, died in February, and Mr. L. M. Power has been appointed to act provisionally as Registrar.

25. Mr. C. B. Hamilton, the Receiver-General, was promoted in August to British Guiana, and Mr. D. B. Horsford has been appointed in his place. Mr. Horsford assumed the duties of the office on the 26th of January, 1893. Mr. S. H. Gatty, Attorney-General, left the Colony in December to take up the appointment of a Puisne Judge of the Straits Settlements. This led to the appointment of Mr. G. L. Garcia as Attorney-General, and Mr. Vincent Brown as Solicitor-General, from the 1st of January, 1893. On the resignation of Mr. J. A. Harragin, Stipendiary Magistrate of the Caroni District, he was succeeded by Mr. H. P. Hobson, Stipendiary Magistrate for Savana Grande,

the latter district being thereupon included in the San Fernando Magistracy. Mr. William Low was appointed Commissioner of Tobago in December in the place of Mr. Hay, retired on a pension.

26. Mr. H. H. Hancock was appointed Second Master of the Royal College in succession to Mr. Burslem resigned. Mr. F. J. Mahoney was promoted to the Wardenship of the Chaguanas Ward Union. Three Supernumerary Government Medical Officers—Drs. C. W. Hewlett, A. Milner, and J. F. Woodyat—were appointed during the year.

Pensions.

27. The following additions were made to the pension list in 1892:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
W. Laurence - - - - -	75	5	10
J. A. Harragin - - - -	466	6	8
A. R. Thornhill - - - -	13	2	6
G. W. Arkless - - - - -	93	3	1
W. H. Wint - - - - -	22	15	0
A. McMillan - - - - -	24	8	6
L. G. Hay - - - - -	35	8	4
	£730	9	11

On the other hand, the list was reduced by the death of the under-mentioned pensioners:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
M. Thomas - - - - -	420	0	0
A. Scamarony - - - - -	145	16	8
R. A. Walker - - - - -	80	0	0
H. A. Fitt - - - - -	314	5	9
H. FitzGerald - - - - -	780	0	0
	£1,740	2	5

and by the reduction of the Police Superannuation Grant by 219*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* There was consequently a saving under this head of 1,229*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*

Consuls.

28. Mr. J. Machado was appointed Consul for the Republic of Venezuela.

Vital Statistics.

29. The population of Trinidad at the end of 1892 was computed to be 214,496 souls, being an estimated increase of 8,787 during the year.

30. The Births, Deaths and Marriages of the year were:

Births - - - - - -	7,251
Deaths - - - - - -	5,365
Marriages - - - - - -	885

the birth-rate and death-rate per thousand being respectively 33·80 and 25·01. The figures for the year 1891 were: Birth-rate 37·32 per thousand, and death-rate 29·66 per thousand. I observed by the newspapers of last mail that the death-rate at Liverpool and Manchester, for instance, was higher than in Trinidad. At Bolton and Preston the deaths were 29·8, or 4·7 higher than in Trinidad during 1892, and this at a healthy time of year. This shows that our tropical island has not much to fear, as far as the duration of human life is concerned, from comparison with some of the chief centres of civilization and sanitation, and of municipal and social organization, in the mother country and in the temperate zone.

Imports and Exports.

31. The value of the imports in 1892, exclusive of bullion and specie, was 1,861,027*l.*, and that of the exports 2,005,277*l.*

32. The following table shows the imports and exports of the Colony in the last ten years:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.	Total Value.	Value, exclusive of Bullion and Specie.
1883 - - -	2,663,022	1,693,264	2,686,670	1,759,376
1884 - - -	3,083,870	1,831,903	2,769,727	1,581,092
1885 - - -	2,241,478	1,512,314	2,246,664	1,539,243
1886 - - -	2,503,514	1,543,507	2,509,140	1,560,336
1887 - - -	1,918,670	1,647,029	1,870,612	1,654,269
1888 - - -	1,943,789	1,678,972	2,132,761	1,904,192
1889 - - -	2,093,932	1,679,944	2,308,832	1,856,651
1890 - - -	2,248,893	1,831,803	2,179,432	1,765,931
1891 - - -	2,096,797	1,793,535	2,058,761	1,716,851
1892 - -	2,089,380	1,861,027	2,258,063	2,005,277

33. It will be seen that the total trade of the Colony reached a value of 4,347,443*l.*, and that, bullion and specie excluded, the value of the exports exceeded that of the imports by 144,250*l.*

34. The Collector of Customs (Mr. Fanning) reports as follows on the Import and Export Returns of the year :—

"The value of all goods imported, excluding bullion and specie, shows an increase of 67,492*l.* over the preceding year.

"The receipt from imports exceeded that of 1891 by 12,353*l.*, the principal articles upon which increases occurred being the following :—

	£
Butter - - - - -	115
Flour - - - - -	1,804
Malt liquor - - - -	1,519
Spirits—other than rum - - -	1,478
Wine - - - - -	779
Opium - - - - -	1,078
Soap - - - - -	645
Sugar - - - - -	1,048
Tobacco—unmanufactured - -	2,021
Tobacco—manufactured - -	1,974
Goods paying duty *ad valorem*, except boots and shoes - - -	6,110

Of these, flour increased notwithstanding a small reduction in the rate of duty, and I am inclined to think the increase represents increased consumption.

"The increases in soap and sugar, the rates of duty on which remained unchanged, were caused, I believe, chiefly by larger shipments for drawback.

"The rates of duty on the other articles mentioned above were increased in consequence of the agreement with the United States. The additional receipt from them being due partly to this, partly to increased shipments for drawback (in the case of *ad valorem* goods to large shipments without drawback), and to some extent to increased consumption.

"There was an increase of receipt on imported rum of 1,591*l.*—not to be ascribed either to the augmentation in the rate of duty, or to increased consumption, as the excise revenue from this article must have suffered a corresponding diminution.

"Of the articles new to the tariff, coal with patent fuel produced 3,137*l.*, and oxen 2,531*l.* The receipt from the former, although not reaching the estimate, was, I think, in excess of the normal consumption, while that from the latter was less than we should have received, but for the suspension of the duty during part of the year.

"The chief articles on which a falling off took place are as follows:—

	£
Bread	1,035
Cheese	446
Corn	2,130
Lard	642
Cocoanut oil	230
Petroleum oil	1,278
Olive and other kinds of oil	1,648
Oil meal	1,745
Rice	1,455
Timber	658
Cigars and cigarettes	415
Boots and shoes	642

Of these oil meal was altogether freed from duty. The duty on cigars and cigarettes was raised, with the result that we received less than before the alteration.

"This is, however, I think, to be accounted for by a diminution in the consumption of cheap foreign cigars, which can no longer be imported profitably, and by the substitution for them of cigars and cigarettes made in the Colony of imported tobacco. The large increase in the receipt of manufactured tobacco bears out this view.

"There is a progressive decrease in the importation of cocoanut oil, due, I presume, to increased production in the Colony.

"The consumption of olive oil appears also to have fallen off, the loss on it being to some extent attributable to the substitution of cotton seed oil, admitted free.

"The falling off in rice is probably in some measure due to its place being taken by flour.

"The losses on the other articles I have mentioned were caused by the reductions in rates of duty consequent on the United States agreement. In some cases increased consumption and large drawback shipments have reduced the amount of loss expected.

"The large falling off in corn was, however, due only in part to this cause—the receipt on this article for 1891 having been much above the normal.

"The total value of exports, excluding bullion and specie, is more by 288,426*l.* than in 1891—the gain in produce of the Colony amounting to 231,981*l.*

"The value of cocoa, produce of the Colony, was 208,317*l.* in excess of the preceding year, due in part, no doubt, to the crop of 1891 having been late. A small quantity of cocoa, produce of Venezuela, appears to be shipped as Trinidad cocoa.

"There were small increases in molasses and sugar, and a slight falling off in the number of cocoanuts exported, due, I understand, to increased use in the Colony for oil-making. The reduction in the value of this article is considerable in consequence of a fall in

TRINIDAD. AND TOBAGO. 1892.

price. Asphalt has increased; there have been shipped 112,224 tons, against 95,989 tons in 1891."

35. The following Returns, prepared by the Government Statist (Mr. H. J. Clark), show the variation of the trade of the year as compared with that of 1891:—

Imports.

Countries.	Transit Imports.		Direct Imports.		Total Imports.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdon -	—	43,744	34,065	—	—	9,679
British Colonies -	—	1,485	4,651	—	3,166	—
United States of America.	9,457	—	26,835	—	36,292	—
France - -	—	6,349	—	20,267	—	26,616
Venezuela - -	812	—	74,125	—	74,937	—
All other Countries-	—	2,052	—	8,556	—	10,608
Total -	10,269	53,630	139,676	28,823	114,395	46,903
Net increase or decrease -	—	43,361	110,853	—	67,492	—

Exports.

Countries.	Transit Exports.		Exports of Native Products.		Re-exports.		Total Exports.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - -	2,258	—	74,837	—	12,767	—	89,862	—
British Colonies - -	—	203	—	5,289	—	16,267	—	21,759
United States of America -	1,352	—	36,628	—	80,737	—	118,717	—
France - - - -	2	—	110,295	—	—	10,189	100,108	—
Venezuela - - -	—	49,150	674	—	25,295	—	—	23,181
All other Countries -	—	481	14,836	—	10,324	—	24,679	—
Total -	3,612	49,834	237,270	5,289	129,123	26,456	333,366	44,940
Net increase or decrease -	—	46,222	231,981	—	102,667	—	288,426	—

36. It will be seen from the next Return, also compiled by the Government Statist, that the export trade to Venezuela has once more reached its former proportions.

Exports to Venezuela from 1879 *to* 1892, *exclusive of Bullion and Specie.*

Year.	Transit Exports.	Direct Exports.	Total Exports.
	£	£	£
1879 - - -	96,557	122,426	218,983
1880 - - -	110,158	104,513	214,671
1881 - - -	130,962	121,724	252,686
1882 - - -	76,997	98,796	175,793
1883 - - -	65,080	72,566	137,646
1884 - - -	74,655	102,145	176,800
1885 - - -	69,079	62,252	131,331
1886 - - -	69,451	37,670	107,121
1887 - - -	107,792	33,816	141,608
1888 - - -	115,926	38,558	154,484
1889 - - -	130,838	55,819	186,657
1890 - - -	101,385	73,363	174,748
1891 - - -	123,067	94,800	217,867
1892 - - -	73,917	120,769	194,686

37. I append a Return showing the quantities of the staples exported in the last ten years:—

Year.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Rum.	Cocoa.
	Lbs.	Galls.	Galls.	Lbs.
1883 - - -	122,070,784	1,982,176	2,394	11,649,785
1884 - - -	136,552,804	2,245,650	43,581	12,098,770
1885 - - -	142,641,411	2,416,761	72,525	13,729,565
1886 - - -	108,523,940	2,220,288	16,181	17,913,087
1887 - - -	149,800,919	2,542,225	35,571	11,927,067
1888 - - -	122,491,220	1,948,569	97,974	21,352,312
1889 - - -	112,368,762	2,234,724	20,015	15,335,228
1890 - - -	115,239,227	2,024,884	20,469	21,552,593
1891 - - -	101,601,371	1,538,415	15,386	16,188,493
1892 - - -	110,582,080	1,895,773	3,820	25,041,635

Year.	Coffee.	Asphalt.			Cocoa-nuts.	Bitters and Liquors.
		Total.	Raw.	Boiled.		
	Lbs.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	No.	Galls.
1883 -	40,822	39,145	34,277	4,868	8,826,500	32,925
1884 -	14,960	39,945	33,383	6,562	11,276,339	32,381
1885 -	20,270	35,236	28,505	6,731	9,645,700	32,240
1886 -	20,052	35,671	30,255	5,416	9,013,200	35,355
1887 -	8,380	43,099	35,072	8,027	7,365,295	35,143
1888 -	4,480	52,028	40,792	11,236	12,366,592	42,830
1889 -	29,774	78,124	66,565	11,559	11,495,471	43,692
1890 -	12,597	78,841	68,201	10,640	12,739,904	43,266
1891 -	8,325	95,990	85,958	10,832	14,334,054	35,764
1892 -	20,842	112,224	102,815	9,409	13,922,171	42,557

38. With regard to the sugar and cacao crops of the year, the Government Statist reports :—

" *Sugar.*—Although the sugar crop of 1892 was only slightly larger in quantity than that of 1891, the advance in quality was very considerable. Vacuum pan sugar, which formed only 50·9 per cent. of the crop of 1891, formed 60·2 per cent. of the crop of 1892, while 'centrifugals' formed 19 per cent. in 1892, as against 16·2 per cent. in 1891. The advance in this direction in 1893, promises to be as marked, if not more so, and it is quite evident that the days of 'muscovado' are numbered.

" It is somewhat singular that notwithstanding all the advantages of the McKinley Tariff, the proportion of sugar exported to the United Kingdom was *larger*, and the proportion to the United States *smaller*, than in either of the two preceding years.

" *Cacao.*—The following table gives the average exports for the two quinquennial periods :—

Countries.	Average Export five years, 1883–1887.	Average Export five years, 1888–1892.	Increase.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
United Kingdom -	7,422,457	8,387,218	964,761
France - - -	3,779,136	6,210,868	2,431,732
United States of America	2,051,500	4,384,773	2,333,273
Other Countries - -	109,671	355,171	245,500

"The above figures show that during the second quinquennial period the three principal Cacao customers of the Colony have increased their trade with it as follows:—United Kingdom, 31 per cent.; France, 64·3 per cent.; and the United States of America, 113·7 per cent."

39. The value of native produce exported is estimated to have exceeded the value of the exports of 1891 by 231,981:—

	£
Increase in asphaltum - - - -	15,670
„ „ bitters - - - - -	6,790
„ „ cacao - - - - -	208,317
„ „ coffee - - - - -	386
„ „ molasses - - - -	4,107
„ „ sugar - - - - -	12,553
„ „ vegetable product - - -	1
Total increase - -	£247,824

Less the following decreases:—	£	
Decrease in cocoanuts - - -	12,239	
„ „ rum - - -	1,342	
„ „ goods manufactured -	1,199	
„ „ „ unmanufactured -	61	
„ „ other articles - -	1,002	
		15,843
Net increase - - -		£231,981

As I remarked in my Despatch on this year's estimates, the pitch lake brought a revenue of 37,232*l.* in 1892, and is expected to bring in 1893, 42,500*l.* or within 600*l.* of the total charge on account of the whole debt of the Colony. Nature kindly pays the public creditor for us from these few acres of the Crown estate. Long may she continue to do so!

40. The foregoing figures show that this community has reason to regard the year 1892 as favourable to the productive and commercial industries of the Colony.

Education.

41. There were 169 elementary schools on the list in 1892, being 8 less than in the preceding year. These were classed as follow:—

Government schools - - - -	43
Assisted schools - - - - -	106

the latter being under the control of the following denominations:—

Roman Catholic - - - - -	43
Church of England - - - -	23
Wesleyan - - - - -	3
Baptist - - - - - -	1
Presbyterian (Indian) - - -	36
	106

The number of scholars on the rolls and the average attendance were:—

	No. of Scholars on Roll.	Average attendance.
Government schools - -	6,835	3,878
Assisted schools - - -	11,912	7,114
Total - - -	18,247	10,992

42. Although the number of scholars increased in 1892 by 633, the average attendance was less than in 1891 by 1,195, a falling off which is attributed to the exceptional severity of the rainy season and the more rigid enforcement of the rule relating to the payment of fees. Provision is made for an average daily attendance of 24,000 children.

43. The expenditure on elementary education was 25,372*l.* 6*s.* 2½*d.*, which was distributed in the following proportions:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Government schools (less reimbursements) -	9,492	14	9
Assisted schools - - - -	12,168	13	4½
Government training schools - -	1,056	2	0
Administration - - - -	2,654	16	1
	£25,372	6	2½

44. Taking the average attendance in the schools it would seem that the cost of education per head in the Government and assisted schools respectively was 2*l.* 8*s.* 11½*d.* and 1*l.* 14*s.* 2½*d.*

45. There are two schools of secondary education in the Colony, the Royal College, under the control of the Government, and the St. Mary's College, affiliated to it. The average attendance at these institutions in 1892 was 74 and 150 respectively.

46. I believe the Government of Trinidad spends more public money every year on education in proportion to its means than probably that of any other Colony. At least, the comparisons I have been able to make are as follows :—

	Proportion of Public Revenue spent on Education.	Public Expenditure on Education per head of population.
		s. *d.*
Jamaica - - - -	$\frac{1}{19}$th	1 8
British Guiana - - -	$\frac{1}{16}$th	1 $7\frac{1}{4}$
Barbados - - - -	$\frac{1}{17}$th	2 $5\frac{1}{4}$
Mauritius - - - -	$\frac{1}{17}$th	1 $7\frac{3}{4}$
Trinidad - - - -	$\frac{1}{14}$th	3 $9\frac{1}{4}$

In Trinidad, as elsewhere, the education system is not without the difficulties which encumber and hamper every Government which has not cut itself adrift from the denominations in this matter. After such a surgical operation, trouble, no oubt stil remains, but it remains on one side only. I do not say that this cure should be attempted just now in Trinidad. On the contrary, I think all should do their best to work under the liberal law of 1890, which gives full scope to denominational education with State assistance. If this law can be made a success in my time here, I shall be fully satisfied.

Shipping.

47. The total tonnage of the vessels entered and cleared in 1892 was 1,254,826 tons, or 21,420 tons less than the preceding year. I annex tabulated statements of the Returns:—

VESSELS ENTERED.

	British.		Foreign.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Sailing vessels -	518	49,579	1,716	98,918	2,234	148,497
Steamers -	283	344,957	158	139,764	441	484,721
Total -	801	394,536	1,874	238,682	2,675	633,218

VESSELS CLEARED.

	BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		TOTAL.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage
Sailing vessels -	514	42,775	1,676	105,011	2,190	147,786
Steamers - -	274	334,739	155	139,083	429	473,822
Total -	788	377,514	1,831	244,094	2,619	621,608

NATIONALITIES OF VESSELS.

	British.	French.	United States.	Dutch.	Venezuela.	Other Countries.
Sailing vessels -	92,354	15,066	91,324	3,628	24,572	69,339
Steamers -	679,696	175,032	856	71,550	31,409	—
Total -	772,050	190,098	92,180	75,178	55,981	69,339

48. The stringent quarantine precautions which it became necessary to adopt here in the latter part of the year, in consequence of the outbreak of cholera in Europe, may have lessened the shipping business of 1892.

Criminal Statistics.

49. The Criminal Statistics of the year are very satisfactory as ompared with those of 1891.

50. The number of offences reported to the police was 1,126 less than in the previous year, and there was a marked diminution in the number of cases for offences against the person, prædial larceny and other offences against property. The figures of the two years are:—

Year.	Offences against the Person.	Prædial Larceny.	Other Offences against Property.	Other Offences.	Total.
1891 - - -	3,614	349	2,009	10,197	16,169
1892 - -	2,815	296	1,620	10,312	15,043

51. The number of persons brought up for trial before the magistrates were dealt with in the following manner:—

Discharged - - - - -	3,431
Dismissed on the merits - - -	2,742
Summarily convicted - - - -	10,464
Sent on to Superior Courts - - -	171
	16,808

The cases tried in the Supreme Courts were disposed of as follows:—

Judgment for Crown - - - -	111
Judgment for prisoner - - - -	32
Prisoner found insane - - - -	1
Cases not prosecuted - - - -	33
	177

The 111 convictions were for the following offences:—

For murder - - - - -	1
„ manslaughter - - - -	5
„ attempt at murder - - - -	4
„ wife murder - - - -	1
„ rape - - - - -	5
„ other offences against the person - -	61
„ offences against property - - -	31
„ miscellaneous offences - - -	3
	111

As the following Return will show, these figures also compare favourably with the statistics of 1891:—

Year.	Convictions for Murder, Manslaughter, &c.	For other Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Total.
1891 - - - -	7	100	41	148
1892 - - - -	11	66	34	111

the percentage of convictions to cases being in the two years 56 per cent. and 63 per cent. respectively.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1892.

52. I append a Return of the offences committed and convictions in the last ten years :—

Year.	Offences.	Convictions.		
		In Magistrates' Courts.	In Supreme Court.	Total.
1883 - - - -	17,705	9,132	114	9,246
1884 - - - -	16,802	10,212	152	10,374
1885 - - - -	14,862	9,855	120	9,975
1886 - - - -	15,073	9,941	107	10,048
1887 - - - -	14,083	8,888	85	8,973
1888 - - - -	16,677	8,534	118	8,652
1889 - - - -	14,305	9,717	108	9,825
1890 - - - -	14,718	10,082	105	10,187
1891 - - - -	16,169	9,668	145	9,183
1892 - - - -	15,043	10,464	111	10,375

The daily average number of prisoners in the three prisons of the Colony was 488—the average of male prisoners being 447, and of female prisons 41.

53. The percentage of offences, convictions and daily average of prisoners to the population was—

Percentage of offences - - -	7·16
Percentage of convictions - - -	5·03
Percentage of prisoners - - -	·23

54. With regard to the large number of offences against the person, as compared with other crimes, the Inspector-General of Police in his annual report states :—

"I have no hesitation in recording my opinion that unless these offences are dealt with by corporal punishment they will not be put down. No doubt a good many of the charges of assaults made by private persons are somewhat frivolous, as is proved by the large number not convicted, but at the same time many assaults occur in which the injured persons decline to prosecute. It will be seen that in three-fourths of the cases of assaults prosecuted by the police convictions were obtained, but less than one-half in those prosecuted by private persons."

General Remarks.

55. The health of the island in 1892 was good. No epidemic disease of any kind prevailed, and the death-rate of 2½ per cent. was exceptionaly low.

56. The year was also a prosperous one. There was a large increase in the exportation of staple products, and, as has been seen, the value of the exports exceeded that of the imports to the extent of 144,250*l.* As a consequence of this, there was an increased consumption of bread, butter, cheese, flour and other articles of food, while, notwithstanding the considerably larger duties levied upon them, no decrease occurred in the importation of malt liquors, spirits, tobacco and wearing apparel.

57. The number of depositors in the savings bank increased from 6,919 with deposits amounting to 144,737*l.* in 1891, to 7,784 with 160,767*l.* in 1892; and although there was a falling off in the receipts from land sales, it was probably merely due to the fact that intending purchasers are holding aloof, watching the development of the various railway schemes, and the result of the "battle of the routes."

58. Owing to the unsettled state, during a part of the year, of the neighbouring Republic of Venezuela, which is the principal source of our beef supply, it became necessary to suspend the recently imposed duty on cattle, in the hope of creating a trade in stock between Trinidad and the neighbouring islands. This was not attended with much success. The duty was re-imposed after a few months' trial of the exemption.

59. On the 6th of October the Colony was visited by a severe storm of wind and rain, which flooded the rivers, washed away bridges, and considerably damaged the crops in some part of the island. Five lives were reported to have been lost. The repair of flood damages on the roads and railways caused a special expenditure of several thousand pounds.

60. The melancholy intelligence of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence was received in the Colony with great sorrow, and with every manifestation of loyal and heartfelt sympathy.

61. The feeling of public security and satisfaction has been increased by the reconstitution of the Bench and Offices of the Supreme Court, which resulted from the Commissions of Inquiry already referred to. Two Commissioners of eminence (Sir William Markby, K.C.I.E., and Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart.) were selected by the Secretary of State to proceed to the Colony and inquire into the complaints against the administration of justice. The Commissioners' final Report was furnished in June, and, together with an earlier Report and the evidence taken, has been printed and published, and forms a large volume.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. 1892.

62. The Legislative Council voted 500*l.* in July towards the relief of sufferers from the late hurricane in Mauritius.

63. The Legislative Council considered, at different times during the year, the question of a further Public Works Loan, principally for railways and roads, and settled the details of the Chaguaramas Harbour Scheme. These matters are now before the Secretary of State.

64. I visited Tobago in March and September. I enclose the remarks of the Commissioner (Mr Low) upon the Returns relating to our Dependency, which has not been as prosperous as I could wish. I have been doing what I can to assist the able Commissioner and the Financial Board at Scarborough, and I trust that our exertions may have a good effect.

65. This lovely island of Trinidad is yearly attracting a greater number of visitors, who appear to enjoy their stay amongst u In January, February, and March the weather is generally all that can be desired. I have travelled the world, but know of nothing which surpasses the special beauties of Trinidad scenery and foliage.

66. In conclusion, I trust that the 215,000 subjects of Her Majesty whose public affairs are partly in my charge, may, at the least never experience a worse year than 1892, which, in spite of floods and some other drawbacks, was a propitious 12 months, both for the public health and the industries of the island. It is to be noted that improved and enconomical methods of sugar production, coupled with better prices, are gradually replacing that industry in a firm and remunerative position. As for cocoa planting, it well deserves the more moderate capitalist's attention. There is probably no agricultural industry so remunerative.

67. Commending Trindad, its inhabitants, its industries, and its capabilities to the kindly feeling and favourable notice of the people of England, in the hands of whose representatives in Parliament this despatch will be placed,

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME.

The Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE TOBAGO BLUE BOOK FOR 1892.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The Revenue of 1892 from all sources was 7,458*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.* The expenditure was 9,009*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*, being a deficit of 1,551*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.*

The Revenue and Expenditure of 1891 were respectively 8,729*l.* and 8,783*l.*

Assets and Liabilities.

2. The assets of the Colony on 31st December 1892 were 962*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, as against liabilities 2,596*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*, the principal part of this, or 1,884*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*, being due to the Crown Agents.

Public Debt.

3. No change was made in the amount of the debt (4,999*l.*19*s.*11½*d.*) due to Trinidad. The interest on the amount due has been paid.

Public Works.

4. No Public Works beyond a partial upkeep of roads and a few incidental small repairs to public bridges were undertaken in 1892.

egislation.

5. In 1892 three Regulations were passed by the Financial Board.

No. 1 was the Appropriation Regulation, 1892.

No. 2 was a temporary measure extending the time of payment of the Land and House Tax from 30th September to 1st December.

No. 3 was a Supplementary Appropriation Regulation.

Civil Establishment.

6. Mr. Hay, the Commissioner, resigned on the 3rd September 1892, and Mr. D. Horsford, of Trinidad, acted for four weeks. Mr. Rayner, Stipendiary Magistrate of San Fernando, was then appointed to act, and on the 8th December Mr. William Low, who had been appointed by the Secretary of State, assumed the duties of Commissioner. No other official changes took place during the year.

Pensions.

7. Two pensions were added to the list during the year, viz., Mr. L. G. Hay, the late Commissioner, and a policeman named

Lawrence H. Edwards. These two names increased the pension list by 163*l.* 1*s.*

Population.

8. According to the Registrar's Returns for 1892 1,414 births were recorded as against 810 deaths, or a net gain of 604. This number, added to the total souls at the taking of the Census in April, 1891, makes the number of the population on 31st December, 19,534.

Ecclesiastical.

9. No remarks are necessary under this head, matters ecclesiastical being the same as in 1891.

Education.

10. Consequent on the Report of Mr. Hobson, Assistant Inspector of Schools at Trinidad, a Committee was appointed to inquire into certain matters dealt with in his Report. The committee were unable, owing to the state of the finances, to adopt his views, but recommended an expenditure of 456*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* on twenty-one schools, being a decrease of three in the number of Anglican schools receiving State assistance in 1891. One Roman Catholic and two Wesleyans were added to the number of 1891.

Imports and Exports.

11. The total imports during 1892 were 15,838*l.*, against 23,944*l.* in 1891.

The exports were 13,743*l.*, against 24,241*l.*,

Having been only a few days in Tobago before the close of the year, I do not propose in this Report to analyse the state of things which has led to this considerable decrease in the trade of the island, more especially as I think, so far as exports are concerned, the decrease is more apparent than real, and is possibly the result of the system of treating the exports from the Colony owing to the union of the island with Trinidad.

The decrease in the imports is doubtless owing to large quantities of articles being bought in Trinidad, and brought over to Tobago in passengers' luggage, and thus, while the Tobago merchants are obliged, in consequence, to reduce the amount of their importations, the Colony loses a substantial amount of Revenue.

Shipping.

12. The number of sailing vessels which entered at this port was 63 with 2,310 tons; 24 steamers were entered with an aggregate of 27,894 tons

Gaols and Prisoners.

13. During 1892 47 men and 26 women were committed to prison for penal imprisonment, and 3 men and 1 woman for safe custody, or a total of 77. Of the prisoners sentenced to penal imprisonment 13 had been previously convicted once, 8 twice, and two thrice or more. No sentence for one year or more appears to have been passed on any of these prisoners, while sentences of more than three months were only passed on twelve of the prisoners. Sixty-one prisoners were sentenced to terms of imprisonment less than three months.

There was one escape from prison during the year, but the runaway was recaptured. The number of punishments inflicted, 50, falls below the punishments of 1891 by 27. There were three floggings and eight stoppages of rations.

This latter form of punishment is one I do not approve of, as starvation is not, in my opinion, a punishment, but a torture.

The prisoners were employed in the same manner as in 1891.

The health of the prisoners was fairly good.

Criminal Statistics.

14. Seven hundred and fifteen cases were reported to the police or brought by other persons before the Magistrates' Court. Three hundred and ninety-five of these resulted in summary convictions and six were committed for trial in the Supreme Courts.

Three hundred and thirty-three persons were fined and paid the fines.

Fifty-three were ordered peremptory imprisonment.

Nine were sentenced to be whipped by the magistrate.

Hospitals.

15. One hundred and ten persons were admitted in 1892 into the only hospital in the island; there were 12 in hospital on 31st December, 1891, or a total of 122. At the close of the year 63 had been cured, 17 relieved, and 12 "not relieved."

WM. LOW,
Commissioner.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 74.

JAMAICA

(TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS).

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 43.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1893.

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1893.

[C.—6857.–24.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL

No.	Colony.	Year.
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	"
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889&'90
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	"
43	Turks Islands	"
44	Bahamas	"
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890&'91
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	"
51	Leeward Islands	"
52	Grenada	"
53	St. Lucia	"
54	Labuan	"
55	British Guiana	"
56	Zululand	"
57	Mauritius	"
58	Lagos	"
59	Straits Settlements	"
60	Ceylon	"
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	"
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	"
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	"
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	"
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 74.

JAMAICA
(TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS).

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 43.)

Sir H. A. BLAKE to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

King's House, Jamaica,
April 19, 1893.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the Blue Book of the Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1892, together with the Commissioner's Report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1892.

1.—*Revenue and Expenditure.*

The Revenue collected in 1892 was 7,836*l.*, as compared with 7,354*l.* in 1891, and exceeded the estimate by 785*l.* The balance carried forward from the previous year was 2,536*l.*, giving a gross revenue of 10,372*l.* The increase was chiefly due to the larger export of salt.

The total expenditure amounted to 7,596*l.*, being less by 400*l.* than the sum expended in 1891. Of this amount, 6,926*l.* was ordinary expenditure, against 6 84*l.* in 1891, and 670*l.* was for special works, the sum so spent in 1891 having been 1,012*l.*

The revenue collected within the year was in excess of the total expenditure within the same period, and left a sum of 240*l.* to be added to the balance to carry forward to 1893. The sum so carried forward was 2,776*l.* and the Dependency has also to its credit the sum of 1,000*l.* invested, making a total credit balance of 3,776*l.*

Statements showing the details of revenue and expenditure for the last two years are attached :—

I 76780 Wt. 10230.

Revenue.

1891.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1890	—			3,177	5	9
Import duties	3,019	4	5			
Royalty on salt exported (1,569,460 bushels)	2,288	18	0			
Do. on cave earth	20	14	0			
Light dues	676	13	4			
Sales of Crown Land	7	5	0			
Rents and leases	195	4	9			
Auction dues	21	13	0			
Liquor licenses	75	0	0			
Wine do.	72	10	0			
Dog tax	15	3	7			
Postage	186	3	1			
Commission on money orders	33	4	4			
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	26	12	0			
Fees of office	80	1	0			
Wharfage and storage	32	9	4			
Grant in aid of mail service	250	0	0			
Interest on money funded	40	0	0			
Miscellaneous Revenue	313	8	9			
				7,354	4	7
To Balance brought down, 2,535*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*				10,531	10	4

1892.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1891	—			2,535	16	8
Import duties	3,038	19	11			
Royalty on salt exported (1,788,334 bushels)	2,608	0	10			
Light dues	764	15	8			
Sales of Crown Lands	12	18	5			
Rents and leases	197	2	7			
Auction dues	23	7	2			
Liquor licenses	75	0	0			
Wine do.	87	0	0			
Dog tax	15	3	9			
Postage	176	2	7			
Commission on money orders	45	11	4			
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	42	0	2			
Fees of office	70	1	4			
Wharfage and storage	19	1	4			
Grant in aid of mail service	250	0	0			
Interest on money funded	40	0	0			
Miscellaneous Revenue	371	1	1			
				7,836	6	2
To Balance brought down, 2,776*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*				10,372	2	10

Expenditure.

1891.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Commissioner's Department - - -	2,094	5	7			
Judicial do. - - -	546	5	3			
Medical do. - - -	384	6	8			
Jail do. - - -	347	2	1			
Police do. - - -	260	14	5			
Light House do. - - -	219	14	4			
Pensions - - - - - -	942	3	0			
Public works - - - - -	271	2	1			
Education - - - - -	524	13	2			
Registration of births and deaths - -	13	6	0			
Vaccination - - - - -	5	5	0			
Inquests - - - - - -	9	16	0			
Printing - - - - - -	100	0	0			
Stationery - - - - -	27	11	4			
Grant in aid of public library - - -	50	0	0			
Poor relief - - - - -	194	7	11			
Mail service - - - - -	500	0	0			
Maintenance of lunatics - - - -	69	18	6			
Post Office expenses - - - -	16	16	0			
Agriculture at the Caicos - - -	18	5	0			
Salary of Clerk of Market and Wharf Lightkeeper	18	0	0			
Grant in aid of maintenance of buoys, C. harbour	30	0	0			
For taking the Census - - - -	63	11	6			
Relief of distress at the Caicos - - -	60	19	8			
Unforeseen contingencies - - -	215	4	9			
				6,983	8	3
Expenditure from Surplus Revenue.						
North tank and catch, Grand Turk - -	229	17	2			
Wall at catch, North Tank do. - -	59	19	0			
Roof do. do. - -	148	12	7			
Pump house do. do. - -	10	0	0			
Pump do. do. - -	12	5	4			
Wharf extension do. - -	325	11	3			
Removals of shoals do. - -	5	0	9			
Repairs to roads do. - -	70	0	0			
Opening channel to South Creek, Salt Cay -	18	3	9			
Landing wharf - - - - -	75	12	7			
Expenses on account of T.I.'s Court at Jamaica Exhibition - - - - -	57	3	0			
				1,012	5	5
				7,995	13	8
Balance - - - - - -	-	-	-	2,535	16	8
				10,531	10	4

1892.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Commissioner's Department - - -	2,090	0	9			
Judicial do. - - -	569	4	0			
Medical do. - - -	200	0	0			
Jail do. - - -	331	0	1			
Police do. - - -	264	16	8			
Light House do. - - -	240	4	3			
Pensions - - - - - -	942	3	0			
Public works - - - - -	401	2	8			
Education - - - - -	562	17	5			
Registration of births and deaths - -	14	13	0			
Inquests - - - - - -	11	16	0			
Printing - - - - - -	100	0	0			
Stationery - - - - -	20	10	11			
Grant in aid of public library - - -	50	0	0			
Poor relief - - - - -	142	8	0			
Mail service - - - - -	478	6	8			
Maintenance of lunatics - - - -	55	3	0			
Post Office expenses - - - -	24	19	6			
Agriculture at the Caicos - - -	18	6	10			
Salary of Clerk of Market and Wharf Lightkeeper	18	0	0			
Grant in aid of maintenance of buoys, C. harbour	30	0	0			
Relief of distress at the Caicos - - -	116	19	8			
Drawbacks on imports - - - -	13	1	8			
Quarantine expenses - - - -	8	7	11			
Sanitary do - - - -	134	13	6			
Unforeseen contingencies - - -	87	6	8			
				6,926	2	2
Expenditure from Surplus Revenue.						
North tank and catch, Grand Turk - -	55	15	3			
Wall at catch, North Tank, do. - -	20	17	0			
Repairs to roads do. - -	140	0	0			
Extension of wharf do. - -	209	8	11			
Removal of shoals do. - -	18	19	8			
Landing wharf, Salt Cay - - -	73	7	1			
Catch for Public Tank do. - - -	49	19	10			
Tank, Cockburn Harbour - - -	101	7	7			
				669	15	4
				7,595	17	6
Balance - - - - - - - - -				2,776	5	4
				10,372	2	10

2.—*Public Works.*

The only new work of importance undertaken during the year was the construction of a tank and catch at Cockburn Harbour, in the Caicos Islands, estimated to cost 450*l.* Good progress was made on this work, which it is hoped may be completed within the current year and confer a substantial benefit on the community at that port.

The North Tank and catch at Grand Turk was finished, the total expenditure on it from commencement in 1890, inclusive of surrounding wall, being 833*l.*

The extension of the wharf at Grand Turk, commenced in the middle of 1891, was completed, the full sum laid out being 535*l.*, as was also a new wharf at Salt Cay at a total cost of 149*l.*

3.—*Legislation.*

The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Board during the year :—

No. 1—The Annual Appropriation Ordinance.
No. 2—The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance.
No. 3—The Superannuation Amendment Ordinance.
No. 4—The Wreck and Salvage Amendment Ordinance.
No. 5—The Retail Liquor and the Sale of Wine and Retail Beer and Cider Amendment Ordinance.
No. 6—To explain the Superannuation Amendment Ordinance.

4.—*Legislative Board.*

Mr. H. Higgins, the Commissioner and President of the Board, went on leave of absence in June, and his place as President was taken by the Acting Commissioner, Mr. E. H. Johnson, Judge of the Supreme Court, the vacancy on the official side thus created being filled up by the appointment of Mr. J. C. Crisson, Postmaster and Treasury Accountant.

5.—*Civil Establishment.*

Mr. H. Higgins left the Dependency on leave of absence on the 19th of June, and did not return during the year, his post as Commissioner being filled by Mr. E. H. Johnson, Judge of the Supreme Court and Auditor, the duties of the latter office being performed by the Assistant Commissioner, Mr. A. W. Harriott.

Dr. A. W. Thompson, Government Medical Officer, was absent on leave from 20th October to 23rd December, his place being taken during that period by Dr. W. O. F. Bascome, of Bermuda.

Mr. F. C. Harriott, Commissioner's Clerk, and Mr. C. P. Stamers, Assistant Commissioner at Salt Cay, were each absent on vacation leave during the year, their respective posts being filled by Messrs. H. F. Harriott and G. D. Jones.

6.—*Foreign Consuls.*

The following countries are represented in the Dependency:—

United States of America.
Sweden and Norway.
Denmark.
France.
Spain.
Dominican Republic.
Haytian Republic.

7.—*Pensions.*

There is no change to report under this head. The total sum paid in pensions was 942*l.*

8.—*Education.*

The following remarks and table are taken from the report of the Chairman of the Board of Education :—

Both the number of scholars on the books and the average attendance have increased, and are much larger than they have been for several years. The former shows an increase of over 20 per cent. on that shown by the last report, and the latter has increased over 25 per cent. All the schools have been in operation throughout the year, and there have been no changes among the teachers.

Summary of School Returns for 1892.

School.	Teacher.	Average Number on Books.	Average Attend-ance.	Number of Days in operation.	Cost of School.
					£ s. d.
Grand Turk - - -	R. G. Wint - - -	265	103	222	158 19 9
Salt Cay - - - -	N. W. Astwood - -	53	27	220	72 16 2
C. Harbour (Boys) -	T. T. Godet - - -	43	32	224	70 13 4
„ (Girls) -	Mary Tatem - -	64	30	226	55 13 3
Kew - - - - -	G. C. Thomas - -	82	65	223	75 1 0
Blue Hills - - -	S. Irons - - -	125	61	217	73 17 0
Lorimers - - - -	J. J. Tucker - -	97	65	218	55 13 11
Total - - -	—	729	383	—	562 17 5

9.—*Imports and Exports.*

The import duties are about the average, being within a few pounds of last year's figure.

The export of salt was large, being 1,788,334 bushels, or about 200,000 above the average.

The dry season was favourable for the salt industry. In addition to the 350,000 bushels remaining on hand at the commencement of the year a very large crop was reaped, and an ample stock, 640,000 bushe'ls, was left on hand to meet the present year's demand. At the time of writing nearly half of this has been exhausted, and the raking of the new crop is about to commence.

Comparative tables, showing the trade and other statistics of the Dependency, are attached.

COLLECTION of IMPORT DUTY for the Year 1892, in comparison with the preceding Year, 1891.

Imports.	1891.			1892.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Alcohol	0	0	0	20	8	0
Ale, porter, cider, &c.	6	8	6	7	8	2
Bay water	5	19	0	12	18	0
Bread	21	18	9	18	18	9
Butter	65	0	9	59	18	8
Cheese	29	10	0	23	9	11
Cigars	16	4	3	3	13	9
Flour, wheat	483	15	1	518	3	2
Lard	73	10	5	83	0	6
Lumber and shingles	162	7	4	125	13	3
Meat, salted and cured	215	4	7	215	15	4
Oils	48	17	5	35	2	10
Paint in oil	17	2	2	12	3	0
Rice	65	8	0	74	5	9
Rum, brandy, gin, cordials, &c.	625	14	6	622	8	2
Soap	28	7	5	43	4	6
Sugar	283	5	10	306	11	7
Tea	35	6	6	41	6	0
Tobacco	40	17	7	48	6	2
Wine	38	0	7	21	14	8
Ad valorem duties	756	5	9	744	9	9
	3,019	4	5	3,038	19	11

VALUE of IMPORTS for the Years 1890, 1891, and 1892.

1890.	1891.	1892.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
42,107 15 11	26,891 17 4	25,387 12 2

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the Years 1890, 1891, and 1892.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cave earth	—	414 0 0	—
Salt	30,007 14 0	23,017 0 5	26,113 1 0
Sponge	181 6 7	1,250 0 1	939 12 6
Str'w, shells	17 5 0	—	—
Sisal hemp	49 10 10	10 15 3	25 0 5
Timber	—	5 15 0	—
Turtle shell	30 0 0	37 0 0	77 10 0
Total	30,285 16 5	24,734 10 9	27,155 3 11

VALUE OF IMPORTS and EXPORTS from and to each Country for the years 1890, 1891, and 1892.

Imports.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	10,145 16 8	4,868 4 3	4,168 13 5
British North America	954 5 6	1,851 5 9	1,070 10 6
British Colonies	847 14 2	1,158 9 11	1,468 18 1
United States, America	24,083 7 3	17,049 3 9	16,635 6 6
Other foreign countries	6,076 12 4	1,964 13 8	2,044 3 8
Total	42,107 15 11*	26,891 17 4	25,387 12 2

* Including wrecked goods.

Exports.

—	1890.	1891.	1892.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom - -	1,498 14 0	—	—
British North America - -	7,144 6 0	6,091 19 4	6,283 15 4
British Colonies - - -	4,106 11 0	629 18 2	347 19 3
United States of America -	21,404 4 11	17,057 13 2	19,478 2 1
Other foreign countries - -	8,496 14 1	2,787 10 4	1,226 5 7
Total - -	42,650 10 0*	26,567 1 0	27,336 2 3

AVERAGE QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the Seven Years 1884 to 1890, and actual EXPORT for 1891 and 1892.

Ports.	1884 to 1890.	1891.	1892.
Grand Turk - -	608,108	533,706	366,366
Salt Cay - - -	500,483	355,994	517,522
Cockburn Harbour -	565,661	679,760	634,446
Total Bushels -	1,674,252	1,569,460	1,788,334

Salt in the Colony on 31st December 1889 - 370,000 bushels.
" " " 1890 - 600,000 "
" " " 1891 - 350,000 "
" " " 1892 - 640,000 "

* Including wrecked goods.

JAMAICA (TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS). 1892.

10.—*Shipping.*

The total number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared for the last three years is shown below :—

Sailing Vessels.

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1890 - - -	365	52,441	370	50,457	735	102,898
1891 - - -	307	40,590	313	40,421	620	81,011
1892 - - -	294	45,887	299	45,364	593	91,251

Steamers.

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1890 - - -	55	56,265	55	56,265	110	112,530
1891 - - -	60	61,190	60	61,190	120	122,380
1892 - - -	57	66,515	57	66,515	114	133,030

No visit was paid to the Dependency by Her Majesty's ships.

Agriculture.

The distress among the inhabitants of the Caicos Islands, mentioned in the previous year's Blue Book Report, was heightened in 1892 by the long spell of dry weather, and relief had again to be given.

The Government further undertook to purchase as much lime and wood from the people as they should bring, by which means material assistance was afforded to the working population at a comparatively trifling cost, the lime being stored for use on public works and the wood resold at a small profit. The two fibre companies at the Caicos also gave employment to a large number of hands during the distress.

The cultivation of the Pita (Sisal) plant continues to make progress, and the report of the Assistant Commissioner at Cockburn Harbour on the subject is encouraging. A large extent of fresh

ground has been planted out during the year, and several new buildings have been erected in connexion with the industry.

Both companies, it is expected, will be in a position to make small shipments of fibre during 1893.

A plantation of Sea Island cotton has also been started on one of the adjacent Cays.

12.—*Gaols and Prisoners.*

The total number of prisoners committed during 1892 was 29, of whom three were for safe keeping and 26 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The daily average in the gaol was six.

13.—*Criminal Statistics.*

The total number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates in 1892 was 169, against 129 in 1891.

Of the offences reported in 1892 :—

49 were for offences against the person.
2 „ „ prædial larceny.
28 „ „ offences against property other than prædial larceny.
90 „ „ other offences.

The total number of convictions in the inferior courts in 1892 was 112, against 85 in 1891.

These convictions are classified as follows :—

33 for offences against the person.
1 „ prædial larceny.
18 „ offences against property other than prædial larceny.
60 „ other offences.

The convictions in the Supreme Court were as follows :—

5 for offences against the person.
4 „ „ „ property.
2 „ other offences.

The acquittals were as follows :—

In the inferior courts - - - - - -	43
In the Supreme Court - - - - - -	2

In 1892 each prisoner dealt with is treated as a separate case. In the previous years, where more than one prisoner was dealt with for the same offence, they were taken as constituting only one case. The apparent increase is thus accounted for.

14.—*Hospitals and Asylums.*

There is no hospital or asylum. Cases of lunacy are very rare, but when occurring, the patient is placed in the gaol and ultimately sent to the asylum at Jamaica.

JAMAICA (TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS). 1892.

15.—*Meteorological Observations.*

Table showing maximum, minimum, and mean temperature taken at 10 a.m. during each month of the year:—

Month	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
January	80	76	74
February	80	76	77
March	78	76	77
April	80	75	77
May	82	76	79
June	83	79	82
July	83	82	83
August	86	83	84
September	86	80	84
October	85	80	83
November	82	76	80
December	80	76	78

RAINFALL for the Year 1892 compared with the Average for the previous Seven Years.

Month.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
January	·76	·40	·82	1·50
February	1·84	·65	1·66	2·25
March	1·35	·90	1·80	1·52
April	·32	—	·03	·30
May	·71	1·20	·81	2·37
June	·23	·76	1·83	·84
July	1·20	·71	·57	1·05
August	·66	1·34	1·79	2·81
September	3·30	2·02	4·00	4·82
October	4·71	5·15	6·27	4·84
November	5·03	5·64	3·82	2·49
December	·14	·68	·11	·68
Total inches	20·25	19.45	23·51	25·47
Average for seven years, 1885 to 1891	26·06	23·74	23·17	45·88

1.—*Savings Banks.*

The Government Savings Bank was opened in 1890. The attached statements show its condition at the present time:—

Bank.	No. of Depositors.		Deposited.		Withdrawn.		To credit.	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Grand Turk	34	42	138 8 6	188 11 2	157 0 2	122 11 7	243 15 7	309 15 2
Salt Cay -	32	38	51 0 0	75 9 1	56 12 11	72 19 3	85 0 8	87 10 6
Cockburn Harbour -	17	18	59 6 7	70 3 0	24 0 0	19 3 5	193 4 9	244 4 4
Total -	83	98	248 15 1	334 3 3	237 13 1	214 14 3	522 1 0	641 10 0

Number of depositors in sums of—

—	Under 1*l.*		1*l.* to 10*l.*		10*l.* to 20*l.*	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Grand Turk -	12	17	16	17	—	4
Salt Cay - -	19	21	11	14	1	3
Cockburn Harbour	8	7	5	6	1	2
Total - -	39	45	32	37	2	9

—	20*l.* to 50*l.*		50*l.* to 100*l.*		Over 100*l.*	
	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.
Grand Turk -	5	2	1	2	—	—
Salt Cay - -	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cockburn Harbour	2	1	1	1	—	1
Total - -	8	3	2	3	—	1

17.—*Postal Statistics.*

The mail service was performed throughout the year by the contract s.s. "Alpha," of Messrs. Pickford and Black's line, plying

monthly between Halifax and Jamaica, calling at Bermuda and Grand Turk.

The steamers of the Clyde line, from New York monthly to Hayti and San Domingo, also make Grand Turk a port of call on both the outward and inward voyage, and carry a mail.

A direct parcel post with the United States and Canada is much desired by the community, and it is hoped that this want may be supplied during the current year.

General Remarks.

A visit was paid to the Dependency in June last by his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, Sir Henry Blake, accompanied by Lady Blake and suite, who remained a day at Grand Turk and subsequently visited the outlying settlements of Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour in the Caicos.

The visit was greatly appreciated by the inhabitants.

The extension of the cable by the Halifax and Bermuda Cable Company, from Bermuda to the West Indies viâ Grand Turk, has not yet been undertaken, but is still hoped for.

There are no other matters of importance that call for remark.

The general condition of the Islands appears to be satisfactory, and to give fair promise for the future, so far as my short residence of two weeks has enabled me to observe.

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Grand Turk, March 18, 1893. Acting Commissioner.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 69.

VICTORIA.

DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS FOR 1891.

(For Digest for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 36.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1893.

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1893.

[C.—6857.-19.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
34	Newfoundland	1890
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 69.

VICTORIA.

(For Digest for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 36.)

The EARL OF HOPETOUN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Melbourne,
December 2, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of Victoria for the year 1891.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOPETOUN.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., P.C.
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1891, by HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

1. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1891 was as follows:— Population, 1891.

Estimated Population, 31st December 1891.

Males - - - -	606,035
Females - - -	551,643
Total - -	1,157,678

2. This estimate shows an increase during the year of 24,412, viz., 9,971 males and 14,441 females. The figures have been derived from the numbers returned at the census, worked back to the beginning and on to the end of 1891, by means of the numbers expressing the excess of births over deaths and of arrivals over departures which took place before and after the census day. The official record of births, deaths, and arrivals have been taken as they stand, but the record of departures being known to be defective, an allowance has been made for those unrecorded, which are estimated to have amounted to 4,631, viz., 3,603 males and 1,028 females in 1891. These numbers have accordingly been deducted from the totals. Had no such deductions been made, Mode of forming population estimate.

the apparent population at the end of 1891 would have been 1,162,309, viz., 609,638 males and 552,671 females.

Apparent increase of population in 1891.

3. According to the records of births and deaths, and of immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1891 was 29,150, viz., 14,436 males and 14,714 females. Of this increase, 19,874, consisting of 8,932 males and 10,942 females, resulted from excess of births over deaths; and 9,276, consisting of 5,504 males and 3,772 females, was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

Mean population. 1891.

4. The mean population of the year 1891 may be estimated as follows:—

Estimated Mean Population, 1891.

Males - - - -	600,860
Females - - - -	546,070
Total - -	1,146,930

Urban and rural population.

5. In the following table the area of Victoria is divided into three districts, the first being the metropolitan (Greater Melbourne), extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city; the second, viz., the extra-metropolitan towns, including the total space embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former) outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, viz., the extra-urban or rural, including the remaining portions of the colony. In each of these districts the population is shown as at the end of 1891, as well as the average population during that year, also the ratio of the population of each district to that of the whole colony, and the number of persons to the square mile:—

Urban and Rural Population, 1891.

Districts.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Population, at end of 1891.			Mean Population, 1891.
		Total.	Proportions per Cent.	Persons to the Sq. Mile.	
Towns { Metropolitan -	256	491,942	42·49	1,921	491,700
Towns { Extra-Metropolitan	376	194,084	16·76	516	195,940
Total Urban - -	632	686,026	59·25	1,085	687,640
Extra-Urban or Rural -	87,252	471,652	40·75	5·4	459,290
Total of Victoria -	87,884	1,157,678	100·00	13	1,146,930

Population of Australasian Colonies at end of 1891.

6. The following table shows the estimated population of each Australasian colony at the end of 1891, the increase of population of each such colony since the census was taken, and the mean population of each during the year:—

Populations of Australasian Colonies at end of 1891.

Colony.	Estimated Population on 31st December.			Both Sexes.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase since Census (8 Months and 25 Days).	Mean Population, 1891.
Victoria -	606,035	551,643	1,157,678	17,273	1,146,930
New South Wales -	630,870	534,430	1,165,300	33,066	1,143,580
Queensland - -	232,558	177,772	410,330	16,612	400,713
South Australia -	169,704	156,062	325,766	5,335	322,956
Western Australia -	32,228	21,057	53,285	3,503	51,243
Total - -	1,671,395	1,440,964	3,112,359	75,789	3,065,392
Tasmania - -	80,917	71,702	152,619	5,952	148,955
New Zealand - -	336,174	297,884	634,058	7,400	629,783
Grand total -	2,088,486	1,810,550	3,899,036	89,141	3,844,130

Population of Victoria and New South Wales.

7. It will be remembered that, according to estimates made in New South Wales, the population of that colony, as far back as 1887, was shown to be larger than that of Victoria. The census of 1891, however, revealed the fact that these estimates were erroneous, and Victoria had still the larger population. If the figures in the table relating to New South Wales—which were supplied by the Government of that colony—are correct, it would appear that in consequence of the increase since the census having been, according to the returns, greater there than in this colony, New South Wales is now, in point of population, in advance of Victoria or any other Australasian colony.

Population of Greater Melbourne, 1891.

8. The following table shows the estimated area in acres, the estimated population, and the number of persons to the acre at the end of 1891, also the estimated mean population during that year in the various municipalities comprised in Greater Melbourne:—

Population of Greater Melbourne, 1891.

Sub-districts.	Estimated Area in Acres.	At end of 1891.		Mean Population, 1891.
		Estimated Population.	Persons to the Acre.	
Melbourne City - -	5,020	73,296	14·60	73,340
North Melbourne Town - -	565	21,057	37·27	21,470
Fitzroy City - - -	923	31,453	34·08	32,120
Collingwood City - - -	1,139	34,791	30·55	34,977
Richmond City - -	1,430	36,704	25·67	38,099
Brunswick Town - - -	2,722	21,961	8·07	21,961
Northcote Town - -	2,850	7,100	2·49	7,339
Prahran City - - -	2,320	39,453	17·01	39,620
South Melbourne City - -	2,311	45,570	19·72	43,066
Port Melbourne Borough - -	2,366	12,797	5·41	12,977
St. Kilda City - -	2,046	20,202	9·87	19,959
Brighton Town - - -	3,288	9,887	3·01	9,868
Essendon Town - -	4,000	15,245	3·81	14,689
Flemington and Kensington Borough.	1,088	10,100	9·28	10,005
Hawthorn City - - -	2,389	19,267	8·10	19,479
Kew Borough - -	3,553	8,500	2·39	8,475
Footscray City - - -	3,075	18,253	5·94	18,850
Williamstown Town - -	2,775	16,190	5·83	16,037
Oakleigh Borough - -	2,178	1,250	·57	1,241
Caulfield Shire - -	6,080	8,155	1·34	8,055
Malvern Shire - - -	4,000	8,435	2·10	8,236
Boroondara Shire - -	8,320	6,438	·77	6,282
Preston Shire - - -	8,800	3,466	·39	3,535
Coburg Shire - - -	4,800	5,852	1·22	5,785
Remainder of district -	84,904	14,555	·17	14,330
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River.	—	1,965	—	1,965
Total, including Shipping -	163,942	491,942	2·99	491,700

Density of metropolitan population.

9. The density of the population of each of the component parts of Greater Melbourne is shown in the fourth column of the table. It will be noticed that the most thickly-peopled municipality is North Melbourne, with rather over 37 persons to the acre; then Fitzroy, with 34; Collingwood, with nearly 31; Richmond, with 26; South Melbourne, with 20; Prahran City, with 17; and Melbourne City with rather less than 15 persons to the acre. In explanation of the fact that some of the suburbs are more densely populated than the city, it will be remembered that large numbers of people who come to business spend their days in the latter, but have their residences, and would therefore be enumerated, in the former. It should also be borne in mind that, in some of the municipalities, extensive parks, gardens, and other public reserves exist, so that the population is really living in closer proximity than the figures indicate. Melbourne City contains 1,723 acres of such reserves; Kew, 634 acres; South Melbourne, 482 acres; Williamstown, 446¼ acres; Flemington and Kensington, 307 acres; St. Kilda, 250 acres; Richmond, 190 acres; Brighton, 166½ acres; Port Melbourne, 80¼ acres; Essendon, 65½ acres; Fitzroy,

41 acres; Collingwood, 39 acres; Footscray, 45¾ acres; and there are smaller reserves in some of the other municipalities. If the reserves be excluded, the persons to the acre in the places named would be as follows:—Fitzroy, 35·7; Collingwood, 31·6; Richmond, 29·6; South Melbourne, 24·9; Melbourne City, 22·2; Flemington and Kensington, 12·9; St. Kilda, 11·25; Williamstown, 7; Footscray, 6; Port Melbourne, 5·6; Essendon, 3·9; Brighton, 3·2; and Kew, 2·9.

Small increase of population, 1891.

10. The growth of the population of Greater Melbourne in the 10 years ended with 1891 was at the rate of nearly 21,000 per annum, but according to estimates carefully prepared by the municipal authorities, this increase has been severely checked, the augmentation between the 5th April and the end of December 1891 being only 1,046, or at the rate of about 1,400 per annum.

Metropolitan populations, 1891.

11. In the following table is shown the area embraced in the metropolis (including suburbs) of each of the Australasian colonies, with the population thereof as enumerated at the last census and estimated at the end of 1891; also the increase of the population of each capital city since the census, the mean population of each during the year, and the density of the population of each at its close:—

Population of Australasian Capital Cities, 1891.

Name of City.	Area in Acres.	Population.		Increase since Census (8 Months and 25 Days).	Mean Population, 1891.	Persons to the Acre (31st Dec. 1891).
		Enumerated (5th April 1891).	Estimated (31st Dec. 1891).			
Melbourne -	163,942	490,896	491,942	1,046	491,700	3·00
Sydney -	86,400	387,434	399,270	11,836	391,379	4·62
Brisbane -	50,240	93,657	—	—	93,657	1·86
Adelaide -	167,680	133,252	132,575	−677	133,026	·79
Perth -	4,830	8,447	10,040	1,593	8,978	2·08
Hobart -	47,560	33,450	33,972	522	33,624	·71
Wellington -	9,032	33,224	33,682	458	33,374	3·72

Increase of population since census.

12. According to the estimates made, Sydney is the only capital city in which any substantial increase of population took place between the date of the census and the end of 1891. It will be noticed that, not only in Sydney but in Perth, the estimated numerical increase of population during the period referred to was greater than in Melbourne.

Density of population in capital cities.

13. It will, moreover, be noticed that the inhabitants of Greater Sydney dwell in greater contiguity than those of any of the other metropolitan cities, and in both that city and Wellington the people are nearer each other than they are in Greater Melbourne, whilst in Adelaide and Hobart there is less than one person to the acre.

Overland migration not recorded.

14. In the following paragraphs the immigration and emigration referred to is by sea only; the results given would probably be

VICTORIA. 1891.

greatly modified if the overland traffic, of which no record is available, were to be taken into account, more especially since the facilities for overland intercourse with the neighbouring colonies have been greatly increased by the extension of railways. The insufficiency of the present returns of immigration and emigration to supply material for supplementing the return of births and deaths, for the purpose of forming estimates of population between the census periods, has more than once been brought under the notice of the Government by the Government Statist, who has suggested that steps should be taken to obtain a record of the arrivals and departures overland; but it seems that difficulties, at present supposed to be insuperable, stand in the way of taking note of such persons, and, therefore, there is no alternative but to leave them out of account altogether. It is evident that, supposing the returns of those who come and go by the seaboard are correct, and the births and deaths are all registered, the population estimates must always understate or overstate the truth, according as the arrivals or the departures overland are the greater.

Returns of arrivals and departures unduly swelled.

15. In consequence of the system pursued in keeping the records of immigration and emigration—the practice being to set down all who pass through Victorian ports on their way to other colonies and countries as both arriving in and departing from this colony—Victoria, being situated between South Australia and Western Australia on the one hand and New South Wales and Queensland on the other, seems always to have an unduly large number of persons coming in and leaving, whereby an impression is created that great numbers come to Victoria, but, being dissatisfied with their prospects in this colony, betake themselves elsewhere. If all are recorded accurately, the result showing those who remain would be correct; still it is to be regretted that some means could not be found of keeping the account without including a number of persons who have had no connexion whatever with the colony, and, perhaps, may have never so much as even landed on its shores.

Immigration and emigration, 1891.

16. The arrivals and departures by sea* recorded during 1891, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow :—

Immigration and Emigration, 1891.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	41,537	20,911	62,448
Departures by sea - - -	36,033	17,139	53,172
Excess of arrivals - -	5,504	3,772	9,276

* All the figures relating to arrivals in the Colony and departures therefrom contain statements of those who come and go by sea only. No attempt is made to keep an account of those who cross the frontier from and to the adjacent Colonies. It has already been mentioned that the number of persons departing by sea is habitually understated.

17. The records of both arrivals and departures show much smaller numbers for 1891 than for 1890, the former by 17,329, and the latter by 10,648; the apparent net gain being less than in 1890 by 6,681, viz., 3,927 males and 2,754 females.

Gain by immigration, 1890 and 1891 compared.

18. The immigration authorities do not note the exact ages of the persons arriving and departing, but classify them as adults, or those from 12 years of age upwards; as children, or those between 1 year of age and 12 years; and as infants, or those under 1 year. The following are the numbers under each of those heads who came and went during 1891:—

Adults and children arriving and departing.

Arrivals and Departures of Adults, Children, and Infants, 1891.

——	Adults.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Arrivals - - - -	57,807	4,131	510	62,448
Departures - - -	47,848	4,586	738	53,172
Immigration in excess -	9,959	−455	−228	9,276

19. In consequence of the practice which exists of recording the ports of original departure and final destination of the ships as being also those of all the passengers, instead of noting the ports at which the respective passengers joined the vessel and those at which they stated their intention of leaving it, much doubt must exist as to the accuracy of the records showing the countries from which persons who arrive in the colony came, and to which those who left it went. The returns, however, as furnished by the immigration authorities, are given for what they may be worth:—

Arrivals from and departures for different countries.

Arrivals from and Departures for different Countries, 1891.

Countries.	Arrivals therefrom.	Departures thereto.	Excess of Immigration.
New South Wales and Queensland -	24,456	20,438	4,018
South and Western Australia -	7,242	7,342	− 100
Tasmania - - - -	18,346	15,217	3,129
New Zealand - - -	4,028	3,313	715
The United Kingdom - -	5,846	4,853	993
Foreign Countries - -	2,530	2,009	521
Total - -	62,448	53,172	9,276

20. The net result of the recorded immigration and emigration by sea between Victoria and the neighbouring Colonies, the United Kingdom, and foreign countries during the last eight months and 27 days of 1881, each of the years 1882 to 1890, the first three months and five days, and the last eight months and twenty-five days of 1891, the whole being the period intervening

Gain by immigration from various countries and *vice versâ*.

VICTORIA. 1891.

between the censuses of 1881 and the end of 1891, is shown in the following table :—

Net Immigration from different Countries, 1881 *to* 1891.

Years.	Immigration from in Excess of Emigration to—						Net Immigration.
	New South Wales and Queensland.	South and Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand and the South Seas.	The United Kingdom.	Foreign Countries.	
1881 (8 months and 27 days).	– 1,327	1,024	1,681	886	3,205	963	6,432
1882 - -	– 2,978	2,929	3,455	165	6,702	607	10,880
1883 - -	– 7,441	2,362	4,500	407	10,276	926	11,030
1884 - -	– 3,647	768	5,332	796	9,863	1,029	14,141
1885 - -	– 7,492	6,136	5,076	1,628	8,875	759	14,982
1886 - -	– 4,479	7,248	5,556	2,694	11,722	2,561	25,302
1887 - -	939	3,991	3,106	1,538	8,813	3,639	22,026
1888 - -	10,517	3,402	8,649	8,475	9,894	866	41,803
1889 - -	– 259	507	5,259	361	10,287	9	16,164
1890 - -	4,034	– 1,422	6,948	1,299	3,502	1,596	15,957
1891 (3 months and 5 days).	2,019	178	2,871	290	– 835	107	4,630
1891 (8 months and 25 days).	1,999	– 278	253	425	1,828	414	4,646
Total -	– 8,115	28,545	52,691	18,964	84,132	13,476	187,993

Net immigration from various countries.

21. It would appear from this table that the Colony gained population from the United Kingdom in all the periods shown, except during the first three months of 1891, when there was a slight loss; that it gained in all the periods from foreign countries, Tasmania and New Zealand; that, moreover, it gained from the western Colonies in all the years except 1890 and 1891, but lost to the eastern ones in all the periods but five, the net loss in that direction being over 8,000 in the 11 years. The largest apparent gain in any one year (42,000) was in 1888, that being the year of the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition; the next largest gain (25,000) was in 1886, when the net immigration was much larger than in any other year except the Exhibition year alluded to. It should be borne in mind that so far as migration by the seaboard is concerned, which is that to which the table refers, the returns inward are fairly correct, whilst those outwards invariably understate the truth, and chiefly for this reason, the recent enumeration of the population, taken in connexion with the registration of births and deaths, revealed the fact that in the recent intercensal period the actual gain by immigration was only 168,000, as against 183,000 shown by the addition of the figures in the last column of the table, omitting those in the last line.

State assisted immigration.

22. In the 12 years 1871 to 1882, 5,547 immigrants from the United Kingdom had free or partially free passages granted them to Victoria. Of these, 3,212, or 58 per cent., arrived in the first

year, and 5,168, or 93 per cent., in the first three years of the period alluded to. The number then declined rapidly from year to year, and since 1873 only 379 such immigrants have arrived. Of these only 5, all females, came in 1880, not one in 1881, and only 2 in 1882. Since 1882 no free or assisted immigrants have been introduced by the State.

Immigration and emigration in Australasian Colonies, 1891.

23. The following table shows the recorded arrivals in and departures from each Australasian colony by sea, and the excess of the former over the latter during the year 1891; the sexes of those who came and who went away being also distinguished:—

Immigration and Emigration Returns of the Australasian Colonies, 1891.

Colony.	Arrivals.			Departures.			Excess of Arrivals over Departures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - -	41,537	20,911	62,448	36,033	17,139	53,172	5,504	3,772	9,276
New South Wales -	47,057	22,862	69,919	35,415	16,658	52,073	11,642	6,204	17,846
Queensland - -	13,090	5,679	18,769	11,822	5,070	16,892	1,268	609	1,877
South Australia -	11,990	4,694	16,684	9,272	3,535	12,807	2,718	1,159	3,877
Western Australia	4,971	1,375	6,346	2,093	568	2,661	2,878	807	3,685
Total - -	118,645	55,521	174,166	94,635	42,970	137,605	24,010	12,551	36,561
Tasmania - -	18,129	9,186	27,315	14,010	7,223	21,233	4,119	1,963	6,082
New Zealand -	9,427	5,004	14,431	11,396	6,233	17,629	−1,969	−1,229	−3,198
Grand Total -	146,201	69,711	215,912	120,041	56,426	176,467	26,160	13,285	39,445

NOTE.—The figures in this table refer to immigration and emigration by sea only.

Net gain by immigration to Australia and Australasia.

24. The figures in the table indicate the persons going from colony to colony, as well as those arriving from, and departing for, distant countries. The figures in the total and grand total lines of the last three columns, however, ought to show the net gain to the population of Australia and Australasia by immigration. By the last of these columns it is seen that, in 1891, the Australian continent apparently gained nearly 37,000, and the continent, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, apparently gained over 39,000 inhabitants. The corresponding figures for 1890 were 51,139 and 51,804; those for 1889 were 48,802 and 51,688; those for 1888 were 73,844 and 65,599; those for 1887 were 61,732 and 65,041, and those for 1886 were 63,144 and 64,947. Many persons, however, leave all the colonies by sea without their departure being noted; therefore the actual gain from without is always less than the records indicate.

Net gain in Victoria, loss in New Zealand.

25. It will be noticed that the net immigration during the year was very much larger to Victoria than to any other colony of the

group, except New South Wales; also that New Zealand was the only colony in which there was a recorded loss of population by emigration.

Finance account, 1890–91.

26. The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of Victoria in the financial year ended on the 30th June 1891; the excess of the latter over the former; the credit balance brought forward from 1889–90, and the debit balance carried forward to 1891–92 :—

Finance Account of Victoria, 1890–91.*

(Exclusive of recoups and special expenditure.)

	£	s.	d.
Receipts - - -	8,343,587	18	4
Expenditure - - -	9,128,698	16	9
Expenditure in excess of receipts - - -	785,110	18	5
Credit balance from 1889–90 -	578,268	0	9
Debit balance carried forward to 1891–92 - - -	206,842	17	8

Large debit balance.

27. During the financial year under review, the expenditure exceeded the receipts by 785,111*l.*; but after allowing for the large credit balance brought forward from the previous year, viz., 578,268*l.*, there remains a net debit balance of 206,843*l.* to be carried forward to 1891–92. This is the first debit balance which has occurred during the last ten years.

Accounts placed on sound footing.

28. With reference to this debit balance, however, it should be stated that an exceptionally large amount (nearly 641,000*l.*) was paid during the last two years to wipe out all arrears remaining over from previous years, with a view of placing the accounts upon a sound footing. Thus the expenditure incurred in each of the last four financial years, but charged forward in each case to the subsequent year, was as follows :—507,123*l.* in 1887–88, 658,936*l.* in 1888–89, 153,226*l.* in 1889–90, and 18,258*l.* in 1890–91. As against the last-named amount, however, the Audit Commissioners point out that there is a set-off of 15,498*l.* by amounts received at country revenue offices in June, but not brought to account in the Treasury until July. Thus, all arrears having

* According to a statement distributed to members of the Legislative Assembly on the 28th July 1892 by the Honourable the Treasurer, the revenue of 1891–92 was 7,728,828*l.*, and the expenditure was 8,639,900*l.*, the latter thus exceeding the former by 911,072*l.*, which amount being added to the balance at the beginning of the financial year, leaves a debit balance of 1,117,915*l.*, which, being added to the balance at the debit of the Land Sales by Auction Fund, 416,410*l.* (which it is proposed to charge to the general revenue account), results in a total debit balance of 1,534,325*l.* to be carried forward. The estimated population at about the middle of the same 12 months was about 1,157,678, so that the revenue per head was 6*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, and the expenditure per head 7*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* These figures are not final.

virtually been paid off, the year 1891–92 is practically free from the liabilities of former years. In accordance with established custom, the interest on the public debt is still charged to the year in which it is payable; interest accrued, but not payable until after the close of any year, being charged to the subsequent year. The amount of interest which had accrued in 1890–91, but was not payable until 1st July and 1st October of the ensuing financial year, was 730,992*l.*

29. In the following table the receipts and expenditure, exclusive of advances recouped and to be recouped, are given for each of the 17 financial years ended with 1890–91; also the surplus or deficiency of revenue in each year, and the credit or debit balances carried forward from year to year:— Net revenue and expenditure.

Net Public Revenue and Net Public Expenditure, 1874–75 *to* 1890–91.

Year.	Excluding Advances Recouped and to be Recouped.			
	Public Revenue.	Public Expenditure.	Surplus (+). Deficiency (−).	Balances carried forward. Credit (+). Debit (−).
	£	£	£	£
1874–75 -	4,169,700	4,296,649	− 126,949	+ 120,155
1875–76 -	4,325,156	4,394,066	− 68,910	+ 51,245
1876–77 -	4,513,738	4,336,139	+ 177,599	+ 228,844
1877–78 -	4,485,412	4,536,062	− 50,650	+ 178,194
1878–79 -	4,520,277	4,809,724	− 289,447	− 111,253
1879–80 -	4,600,627	4,803,790	− 203,163	− 314,416
1880–81 -	5,115,041	5,100,225	+ 14,816	− 299,600
1881–82 -	5,589,972	5,145,764	+ 444,208	+ 144,608
1882–83 -	5,602,066	5,643,885	− 41,819	+ 102,789
1883–84 -	5,934,578	5,653,293	+ 281,285	+ 384,074
1884–85 -	6,290,361	6,121,564	+ 168,797	+ 552,871
1885–86 -	6,416,406	6,513,540	− 97,134	+ 455,737
1886–87 -	6,733,826	6,561,251	+ 172,575	+ 628,312
1887–88 -	7,607,598	7,287,151	+ 320,447	+ 948,758
1888–89 -	8,675,990	7,919,902	+ 756,088	+ 1,704,846
1889–90 -	8,519,159	9,645,737	− 1,126,578	+ 578,268
1890–91 -	8,343,588	9,128,699	− 785,111	− 206,843

VICTORIA. 1891.

Years of highest and lowest surplus and deficiency, &c.

30. It will be noticed that the gross revenue showed a surplus in eight and a deficiency in nine of the years named. On the whole, the deficiencies were larger than the surpluses, as the credit balance, amounting to 120,000*l.*, carried forward at the end of the first year has disappeared, and its place at the end of the last year has been supplied by a debit balance of 207,000*l.* By far the largest surplus of revenue was in 1888–89, when it exceeded by nearly one-third of a million sterling that in 1881–82, which was the next largest. The credit balance carried forward at the end of 1888–89 was also much larger than that in 1887–88, which in turn was much larger than in any other year. The largest deficiencies of revenue were in 1889–90 and 1890–91, when they exceeded by over 830,000*l.* and nearly 500,000*l.* respectively the deficiency in 1878–79 which was the largest after these.

Changes in source of revenue.

31. No changes were made in the taxation of the people in 1890–91, but several changes, carried out in the previous year, continued to affect the revenue during the year under review. Thus, on the one hand, the Customs duties on tea, coffee, and cocoa, which were either remitted or considerably reduced in 1889–90, showed a further actual loss in 1890–91 of about 26,100*l.*; moreover, duties on several other articles, which were mostly increased, were estimated to, but did not, result in a net further gain of 52,500*l.* to the revenue of the year, on the assumption that the importation of the articles affected would not fall off. As a matter of fact, however, the revenue from customs duties as a whole fell off by over 130,000*l.*, owing partly to some of the duties having become prohibitory, but chiefly to a gradual contraction in the general imports since 1888–89, when they were stimulated partly by the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition held during that year, and partly by the great excitement, which was then at its height, in connexion with land, mining, and other speculations. Moreover, the excise duty on tobacco was reduced (in 1889–90) at an actual loss on the year under review of about 11,000*l.*; and the rate of tonnage dues on vessels was reduced, at a loss of about 9,100*l.* An unforeseen decrease of about 215,000*l.*, as compared with 1889–90, also occurred in the amount received from duties on estates of deceased persons, a source of income which is naturally subject to fluctuations. As regards other sources of revenue, the railways were extended by an average length of 321 miles during the year; and, in consequence, the revenue derivable therefrom might be expected to increase, allowing 1,340*l.* per mile, by about 430,300*l.*

Revenue, 1890–91 and previous years.

32. The revenue of 1890–91 was smaller by 332,000*l.* and 176,000*l.* than the revenues of 1888–89 and 1889–90 respectively; it was, however, much larger than that raised in any year prior to those two. The year in which the next largest revenue had previously been realised was 1887–8, when, however, it was about 736,000*l.* less than in the year under review. In the 10 years ended with the year under review the revenue increased from

5,200,000*l.* to 8,300,000*l.*, or by 60 per cent., the population during the same period having increased by only 32 per cent.

Expenditure, 1890–91 and former years.

33. The expenditure in 1890–91 was much larger than in any previous year except 1889–90. The amount was less than in that year by over 517,000*l.*, but exceeded that in 1888–89, the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred, by about 1,210,000*l.* It should be pointed out, however, that the amounts in the last two years were exceptionally large, from the fact of their including many items which are non-recurring. Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–73 it was usually nearly up to or slightly over three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; from 1880–81 to 1883–84 it ranged from five to nearly five and three-quarter millions; from 1884–5 to 1888–9 it increased from six to nearly eight millions sterling; whilst in the last two years it exceeded nine millions.

Amount unexpended, 1856–91.

34. By adding the figures in the last column, it is found that the sum of the unexpended balances in the 35½ years amounted to nearly 9⅔ millions sterling, the exact amount being 9,642,175*l.*, or to an average of about 271,600*l.* per annum.

Heads of revenue, 1889–90 and 1890–91.

35. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in five main divisions, viz.:—Taxation, Crown Lands, Railways and other Reproductive Public Works, Post and Telegraphs, and other sources. In 1890–91, 3,253,000*l.*, or 39 per cent., was derived from taxation; 613,000*l.*, or 7 per cent., from Crown Lands; 4,093,000*l.*, or 49 per cent., from what may be termed the commercial undertakings of the Government, viz.:—Railways, Waterworks, and Post and Telegraphs, to which the railways alone contributed as much as 3,306,000*l.*, or nearly 40 per cent. of the total revenue; whilst the balance, amounting to 384,000*l.*, or about 5 per cent. of the whole, was derived from other sources. Of the land revenue, amounting to 613,000*l.*, by far the greater proportion, or 476,000*l.*, being equal to nearly 6 per cent. of the total revenue, was derived from the sale of public land, which, being a receipt arising from the realisation of one of the most valuable assets of the country, is obviously not a permanent source of income. Portion of this amount is properly treated as capital, for on reference to the statement of expenditure it will be seen that a sum of nearly 107,400*l.* was paid during the year towards the construction of railways as directed by the Land Act, 1884, which provides that all proceeds arising from the sale of public lands by auction shall be paid to the credit of the railway construction account. In the last two years, however, the amount so paid represented only between one-fifth and one-sixth of the total proceeds from land sales, the great bulk of land alienated being disposed of otherwise than at auction. A special receipt in 1889–90, amounting to 140,000*l.*, was derived from the sale of the old police court site, the proceeds of which have not been allowed to merge into the general revenue, but have been set apart for various public works. The following is a statement

of the amounts received under different heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years, together with the increase or decrease under each head:—

Heads of Revenue, 1889–90 *and* 1890–91.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889-90.	1890-91.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	2,658,010	2,525,572	—	132,438
Excise	137,332	129,990	—	7,342
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	29,789	20,669	—	9,120
Licenses (business)	21,756	22,152	396	—
Duties on estates of deceased persons	400,150	184,886	—	215,264
Duties on bank notes	32,173	30,736	—	1,437
Stamp duty	230,000	218,000	—	12,000
Land tax	121,604	120,633	—	971
Total	3,630,814	3,252,638	—	378,176
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	442,583	476,542	33,959	—
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	136,358	136,601	243	—
Penalties under Land Acts	835	308	—	527
Total	579,776	613,451	33,675	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	3,134,066	3,306,580	172,514	—
Water supply { Metropolitan	190,678	204,026	13,348	—
Water supply { Country	69,549	77,055	7,506	—
Other public works	4,848	6,701	1,853	—
Total	3,399,141	3,594,362	195,221	—
POST AND TELEGRAPHS.				
Postal receipts, &c.	353,684	322,693	—	30,991
Telegraph receipts, &c.	172,716	176,634	3,918	—
Total	526,400	499,327	—	27,073
OTHER SOURCES.				
Mint charges	11,317	10,655	—	662
„ subsidy returned	4,478	4,760	282	—
Fees, fines, &c. (inclusive of fee stamps)	162,807	162,452	—	355
Interest on public account	66,700	56,492	—	10,208
Rents (other than Crown lands)	4,019	2,427	—	1,592
Reimbursements in aid	75,220	76,522	1,302	—
Miscellaneous receipts	58,487	70,502	12,015	—
Total	383,028	383,810	782	—
Total Ordinary Revenue	8,519,159	8,343,588	—	175,571
Special Receipts	140,000	—	—	140,000
Grand Total Receipts	8,659,159	8,343,588	—	315,571

Diminished revenue, 1890–91, under various heads.

36. Comparing the ordinary revenue of 1890–91 with that of the previous year, it will be observed that the total net decrease, viz., 175,600*l.*, resulted from a falling off of 422,900*l.* under certain heads, chiefly taxation and postal receipts, less an increase of 247,300*l.* under others, more especially Public Works, land revenue, and miscellaneous receipts. The falling-off under taxation amounted to as much as 378,000*l.*, of which 215,000*l.* was in consequence of the smaller amount derived from estates of deceased persons, an item which naturally fluctuates considerably, whilst the remainder is chiefly accounted for by the diminished Customs revenue. In consequence of the rate for inland letters being reduced from 2*d.* to 1*d.*, from the 1st January 1890, the Postal receipts, &c.—which, besides receipts from postage, include commission on money orders, proceeds of parcels post, &c.—show an apparent falling-off of 31,000*l.*, in addition to 49,000*l.* in the previous year, or about 80,000*l.* in all; but eliminating commission on money orders, &c., the estimated revenue from postage alone fell off during the last two years by about 86,000*l.*, which proves to be 10,000*l.* below the estimated loss. On the other hand the telegraph revenue continues to expand, although the increase in 1890–91 (4,000*l.*) was not nearly so large as that in the previous year, viz., 22,700*l.*; whilst the total increase since 1883–84, just before considerable reductions were made in the rates, was 89,700*l.*, or over 100 per cent. It should be noted, however, that over 37,000*l.* of this is derived from the telephone exchanges, taken over by the Government in September 1887. The increase in the land revenue amounted to 33,700*l.*, which is due to the alienation of Crown lands, the amounts derived from rentals remaining almost stationary. In the Public Works division the increase exceeded 195,000*l.*, being made up of 172,500*l.* under railways, which, however, is less by 257,500*l.* than the amount which might have been expected (viz., 430,000*l.*) from the increased length of line open for traffic; 13,300*l.* under Metropolitan Waterworks; 7,500*l.* under Country Waterworks, due merely to increased interest on growing advances to waterworks and irrigation trusts; and 1,800*l.* to other public works. Under "Other Sources" there was a falling-off of 10,000*l.* in the interest received on the public account; but, on the other hand, this was more than counterbalanced by an increase of 12,000*l.* in miscellaneous receipts.

Estimates of postal and stamp revenue unreliable.

37. In reference to the postal revenue, it should be pointed out that, although carefully estimated in the office of the Government Statist, it may be wide of the mark, the data available being, for reasons already explained, inadequate to show with certainty the progress of this important branch of revenue; and the reductions made from time to time in the postal rates still further increase the difficulty of forming a correct estimate. The total stamp revenue in 1890–91 was 751,330*l.*, but, after deducting the amount received on account of telegrams, which is known, there remains a balance of 612,010*l.* for stamp duty, postage, and fees, as compared with 662,649*l.* in 1889–90. Thus the stamp revenue,

VICTORIA. 1891.

exclusive of telegraphs, showed a decrease of 50,639*l.* as compared with that received in the previous year, and one of 87,207*l.* in 1889–90, as against an increase of 82,286*l.* in 1888–9, of 140,792*l.* in 1887–8, of only 1,465*l.* in 1886–87, of 36,931*l.* in 1885–86, and of 43,372*l.* in 1884–85. Of the decrease in 1890–91, about 36,000*l.* was estimated to have been due chiefly to the reduction in the rate of postage just alluded to, against which must be set off an increase of about 1,100*l.* from the parcels post; and, after allowing a reasonable reduction for fees, a balance of 12,000*l.* was set down to stamp duty (taxation). The importance of distinguishing stamp duty (taxation) from postal revenue and fees has often been referred to in previous issues of this work, but there is still no reliable information on the subject.

Heads of expenditure, 1889–90 and 1890–91.

38. Of the total ordinary expenditure of Victoria in 1890–91, 1,353,000*l.*, or 15 per cent., was disbursed to defray the cost of Government, maintenance of law and order, and provision against foreign attack; 868,000*l.*, excluding 76,000*l.* for buildings, or 9½ per cent., was contributed towards public instruction and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge; 303,000*l.*, or nearly 3⅓ per cent., was expended on public charities or devoted to the preservation of the public health; 100,000*l.*, or 1 per cent., was expended on the management and survey of the Crown lands, or about 37,000*l.* less than the gross annual rental therefrom during the same financial year; as much as 4,802,000*l.*, or 53 per cent., was absorbed in carrying on the various commercial undertakings of the Government, viz., 2,530,000*l.* on railways and waterworks, besides 1,529,000*l.* in interest upon loans raised for their construction, and 743,000*l.* on post and telegraphs; 118,000*l.* was paid as interest on amounts borrowed for the construction of other public works; 86,000*l.* was the cost of collecting the revenue from Customs duties and Excise, whilst 38,000*l.* was spent on the maintenance of ports and harbours; and 252,000*l.*, or 3 per cent., was granted in aid of the agricultural and mining industries. The amounts just enumerated, together with 131,000*l.* expended on miscellaneous services, form the ordinary expenditure for the year; but besides this an amount of 1,070,900*l.*, or nearly 11⅔ per cent. of the total expenditure, was spent on the construction of various public works of a permanent character, viz., 107,400*l.* on railways, 76,000*l.* on State school buildings, and 887,500*l.* on "miscellaneous public works," which embraces the cost of erection and of maintenance of public offices and buildings of all kinds, expenditure on roads and bridges, and municipal subsidies (450,000*l.*). These amounts might be considered as a set-off against the proceeds of land sales before referred to, which they even exceeded by 594,000*l.* In 1890–91 there were also certain items of special expenditure, amounting to 181,600*l.* (in addition to 230,203*l.* in the two previous years) for the erection of certain public buildings and the improvement of Crown lands, to be recouped from the proceeds of the sale of Crown lands by auction. The following is a classification of the expenditure under 10 divisions and 27 subsidiary

heads, during the years 1889-90 and 1890-91, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1889-90 *and* 1890-91.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889-90.	1890-91.		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT.	£	£	£	£
Civil list	40,915	41,827	912	—
Legislature	74,282	73,503	—	779
Civil establishment	166,471	166,964	493	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	108,842	125,504	16,662	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	41,701	56,697	14,996	—
Total	432,211	464,495	32,284	—
LAW, ORDER, AND PROTECTION.				
Judicial and legal	243,856	237,941	—	5,915
Police	265,149	284,097	18,948	—
Gaols and penal establishments	71,146	71,429	283	—
Defences—Naval and Military	350,823	294,967	—	55,856
Total	930,974	888,434	—	42,540
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CHARITY, &c.				
Public instruction, science, &c.	828,074	867,641	39,567	—
State School buildings	207,595	76,390	—	131,205
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	316,140	303,134	—	13,006
Total	1,351,809	1,247,165	—	104,644
CROWN LANDS.				
Administration and survey	97,249	99,695	2,446	—
Agriculture, &c.	98,445	130,948	32,503	—
Mining	137,291	121,310	—	15,981
Total	332,985	351,953	18,968	—
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways—Working expenses	2,511,106	2,462,582	—	48,524
„ Construction account	88,588	107,428	18,840	—
Water supply	68,850	71,855	3,005	—
Other public works	1,027,926	887,453	—	140,473
Total	3,696,470	3,529,318	—	167,152
Post and telegraphs	709,328	742,666	33,338	—
PUBLIC DEBT.				
Interest and expenses—Railways	1,203,375	1,279,195	75,820	—
„ „ Water supply	227,180	249,935	22,755	—
„ „ Other works	117,590	117,754	164	—
Total interest, &c.	1,548,145	1,646,884	98,739	—
Redemption of loans and expenses	276,100	2,125	—	273,975

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1889-90.	1890-91.		
TRADE, NAVIGATION, &c.	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - - -	88,966	85,885	—	3,081
Harbours and lights - - -	35,166	38,468	3,302	—
Total - - - -	124,132	124,353	221	—
OTHER EXPENDITURE.				
Mint subsidy - - - -	20,000	20,000	—	—
Aborigines - - - -	9,761	8,692	—	1,069
Miscellaneous services - - -	213,822	102,614	—	111,208
Total - - - -	243,583	131,306	—	112,277
Total ordinary expenditure -	9,645,737	9,128,699	—	517,038
Special expenditure - -	190,779	181,587	—	9,192
Total expenditure—ordinary and special - - -	9,836,516	9,310,286	—	526,230

Chief items of expenditure, 1889-90 and 1890-91 compared.

39. From this table it may be ascertained that a total increase in the ordinary expenditure amounting to 284,034*l.* took place under 15 heads, but a decrease of 801,072*l.* under the other 12 heads, resulting in a net decrease of about 517,000*l.* On the one hand, the most prominent increases were 98,700*l.* in the interest on the public debt, owing to the increasing amounts borrowed for the construction of railways and waterworks; 39,600 under public instruction, of which 25,000*l.* was due to increased cost of State (primary) education, and 15,000*l.* to additional or special grants to the university, technological schools, and mechanics' institutes, &c.; 33,300*l.* under post and telegraphs, of which 25,000*l.* was increased cost of administration, making a total increase of about 80,000*l.* in the last two years; 32,500*l.* under agriculture, of which State forests account for 6,000*l.*, and bonuses for agricultural products for 27,000*l.*; 31,600*l.* under retiring allowances, gratuities, compensation, &c., of which, however, 15,000*l.* being on account of gratuities, &c., does not add to the annual charge, owing chiefly to the retirement of sexagenarians; 19,000*l.* under police, of which about 6,000*l.* was owing to expenses connected with precautions taken to maintain order during the occurrence of the labour strikes in Melbourne; and 18,800*l.* in the amount paid to the railway construction account, which is dependent on the sale of land by auction. In regard to the agricultural bonuses referred to, the total amount already appropriated to that object was 233,000*l.*, of which only 41,600*l.* has yet been paid, the balance being payable from time to time in accordance with regulations approved

by the Governor in Council. On the other hand, there was a large decrease of 140,500*l.* under miscellaneous public works, partly made up of subsidiary decreases as follows:—Government House, 9,000*l.*; court houses, 10,500*l.*; police buildings, 8,000*l.*; lunatic asylums, 11,400*l.*; raising and draining low-lying lands, &c., 6,000*l.*; purchase of land near General Post Office, 17,000*l.*; country post offices, 10,000*l.*; and roads and bridges, 72,000*l.*; also 55,800*l.* under defences, notwithstanding an additional vote of 26,500*l.* to augment the special appropriation of 145,000*l.*, the amount spent on defence works and buildings (including torpedo boats) alone being less by 95,000*l.*; 48,500*l.* under railways; 16,000*l.* under mining, of which nearly 12,000*l.* was in the prospecting vote; 13,000*l.* under charitable institutions, of which 10,000*l.* was a non-recurring grant in aid of increased hospital accommodation in the metropolis, 6,800*l.* under the inebriate asylum (recently built); and of 111,200*l.* in miscellaneous services, resulting chiefly from an exceptional and non-recurring item of 150,000*l.* (advances to be recouped) appearing only in the accounts for 1889–90, and three similar items, 18,500*l.* for the census, 14,100*l.* on account of premier permanent prosecutions, and 22,500*l.* to provide for maintenance of order during the strikes, appearing only in the accounts of 1890–91. Moreover, the following decreases appeared in items usually provided for out of loans:—State school buildings, 131,200*l.*; redemption of loans, 274,000*l.*

Loss on working of State railways.

40. It has already been stated that nearly half the total expenditure is in connexion with the working of the railways, waterworks, and post and telegraphs; but the most important of these is the railways. As the Treasurer's account of these for the last two years is to some extent complicated by arrears being included with a view of placing the account on a sound footing for the future, a better idea of their financial condition will more readily be obtained from the accounts of the Railway Department, which, being compiled at a later date, are believed to be complete for each year. From these it appears that the working expenses increased from 2,132,158*l.* in 1889–90 to 2,310,645*l.* in 1890–91, or by 178,487*l.*; so that there was really no falling-off as would appear from the figures given in the last table. By the same accounts, the net earnings fell off from 999,708*l.* to 987,922*l.* in the two years respectively. And if the differences be taken between these amounts and those given in the last table, as showing the interest paid on account of railway loans, the results will show that the loss to the State on account of railways increased from 203,667*l.* in 1889–90 to 291,273*l.* in 1890–91, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Railways.—Net Earnings and Interest compared.

	1889–90.	1890–91.
	£	£
Net earnings - - - - -	999,708	987,922
Interest, &c. paid on railway loans - - -	1,203,375	1,279,195
Apparent loss - - - -	203,667	291,273

Expenditure of loans, &c.

41. In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, large sums are annually disbursed for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure prior to 1885–86 and during each subsequent year. This is intended to supplement the table of ordinary expenditure by exhibiting those items which having never been, or having ceased to be, a charge on the general revenue, are treated in separate accounts :—

Expenditure of Net Proceeds of Loans to 30th June 1891.

Purposes of Expenditure.	Amounts Expended.							
	Prior to 1885–86.	1885–86.	1886–87.	1887–88.	1888–89.	1889–90.	1890–91.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways - -	20,762,830	1,408,662	1,711,160	1,774,721	3,083,211	2,933,087	2,786,562	34,460,233
Water supply :—								
Melbourne -	1,709,388	95,036	148,356	277,749	222,343	434,416	124,037	3,011,325
Country - -	2,503,636	140,449	225,638	184,813	261,725	361,855	503,520	4,181,636
Law courts and Parliament Houses -	436,834	12,153	32,770	44,954	37,563	15,270	—	579,544
Public offices -	162,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	162,280
Defences - -	98,299	—	—	—	—	—	—	98,299
State school buildings - - -	968,495	45,438	49,284	54,308	59,970	—	—	1,177,495
Yarra bridge - -	13,845	14,205	42,561	32,627	18,207	—	—	121,445
Alfred graving dock	341,819	—	—	—	—	—	—	341,819
Harbour works, &c.	60,183	20,976	47,856	53,344	54,279	9,377	13,076	259,091
Total - -	27,057,609	1,736,919	2,257,625	2,422,516	3,737,298	3,754,005	3,427,195	44,393,167

Annual subsidies, grants, &c.

42. Over a tenth of the expenditure payable from the General Revenue consists of subsidies, grants, endowments, &c. The whole amount paid in 1890–91 in this manner was over 928,000*l.* of which nearly half was paid to municipalities, over an eighth to charitable institutions, and nearly a ninth in aid of the mining industry. This does not include the annual grant or free public instruction, which amounted to about 736,000*l.*; or for the

maintenance of the Government charitable institutions—such as the hospitals for the insane, the industrial and reformatory schools, and inebriate asylum—which amounted to nearly 161,000*l* The following is a statement of the amounts paid in 1890-91 under the various heads:—

Subsidies, Grants, Endowments, &c., 1890–91.

	£
Subsidy to municipalities	450,000
Educational Grants, &c.—	
Melbourne University—Endowment under Act	9,000
„ „ Additional endowment voted	7,500
„ „ Grant in aid of laboratories	5,000
College of Pharmacy	1,000
Technological schools—Maintenance, &c.	19,100
„ „ Buildings	19,500
Public libraries, &c. (including Melbourne Public Library)	48,690
Grant to Royal Society	500
„ Australasian Association for Advancement of Science	200
„ Victorian Artists' Society	250
„ Fine Arts Galleries, Ballarat, Sandhurst, &c.	2,000
„ Zoological and Acclimatisation Society, &c.	4,200
Grant to charitable institutions	120,000
„ Animals' Protection Society	250
Post and Telegraphs—	
Subsidy—Foreign Mail Service (including payments to other Governments)	44,900
„ Maintenance of telegraph line between Port Darwin and Penang	10,400
Mining, Agricultural, and other Industries—	
Mining Boards	3,500
Mint Subsidy	20,000
Diamond drills—Purchase and working expenses of Grant to assist miners in prospecting operations	76,300
„ Agricultural and Horticultural Societies	25,224
„ Board of Viticulture	1,000
Prizes for agricultural improvements, &c.	990
Bonuses, &c. in aid of agricultural and other industries	34,227
Defences—	
Prizes to rifle associations, &c.	2,700
Supply of ammunition to rifle clubs, cadet corps, &c.	5,000
Bonus to Colonial Ammunition Co., on establishment in colony	5,882
Miscellaneous—	
Exhibitions	1,400
Exhibition trustees, expenses of	6,000
National orchestra	3,000
Imperial Institute	500
Total	£928,213

Revenue and expenditure in Australasian Colonies.

43. The total amount of revenue and expenditure, and the amount of each per head of the living population, in each of the Australasian Colonies are shown in the following table for the 10 years ended with 1890. As the financial year of Victoria terminates on the 30th June, the items for this Colony are given for 11 years, the last year but one being six months behind, and

the last year being six months in advance, of the latest period in respect to which returns are given for the other Colonies :—

Revenue and Expenditure in Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
		£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Victoria	1880–81	5,186,011	6 0 7	5,108,642	5 18 10
	1881–82	5,592,362	6 7 1	5,145,764	5 17 0
	1882–83	5,611,253	6 4 6	5,651,885	6 5 5
	1883–84	5,934,687	6 9 0	5,715,293	6 4 2
	1884–85	6,290,361	6 13 2	6,140,356	6 10 0
	1885–86	6,481,021	6 13 9	6,513,540	6 14 5
	1886–87	6,733,826	6 14 7	6,561,251	6 11 2
	1887–88	7,607,598	7 7 4	7,287,151	7 1 1
	1888–89	8,675,990	8 1 1	7,919,902	7 7 1
	1889–90	8,519,159	7 14 5	9,645,737	8 14 10
	1890–91	8,343,588	7 7 3	9,128,699	8 1 1
New South Wales	1881	6,707,963	8 15 10	5,890,580	7 14 5
	1882	7,410,737	9 5 7	6,347,810	7 19 0
	1883	6,470,341	7 14 5	8,048,319	9 12 1
	1884	7,117,592	8 1 2	6,853,189	7 15 2
	1885	7,584,593	8 3 7	8,573,288	9 4 11
	1886	7,594,301	7 16 8	9,078,869	9 7 4
	1887	8,582,811	8 10 10	9,098,460	9 1 1
	1888	8,886,360	8 11 7	8,778,851	8 9 6
	1889	9,063,397	8 10 0	9,250,271	8 13 6
	1890	9,498,620	8 12 5	9,403,562	8 10 8
Queensland	1880–81	2,023,668	9 8 2	1,757,654	8 3 5
	1881–82	2,102,095	9 5 3	1,904,201	8 7 9
	1883	2,583,444	9 12 11	2,242,971	8 7 6
	1884	2,673,554	9 1 5	2,751,851	9 6 8
	1885	2,840,960	9 4 0	2,875,609	9 6 3
	1886	2,810,147	8 11 10	3,202,030	9 15 10
	1887	3,032,463	8 15 0	3,350,049	9 13 4
	1888	3,463,097	9 11 9	3,368,405	9 6 6
	1889	3,440,249	9 3 10	3,594,626	9 12 1
	1890	3,260,308	8 9 0	3,745,217	9 14 2
South Australia	1881	2,171,988	7 10 4	2,054,285	7 2 4
	1882	2,087,076	7 4 0	2,146,599	7 8 1
	1883	2,060,140	6 17 10	2,330,079	7 15 10
	1884	2,024,928	6 11 3	2,398,191	7 15 5
	1885	2,309,592	7 7 6	2,454,808	7 16 10
	1886	1,975,269	6 6 11	2,234,395	7 3 7
	1887	2,014,102	6 9 6	2,145,135	6 17 11
	1888	2,494,556	7 19 9	2,376,399	7 12 3
	1889	2,270,433	7 4 9	2,355,927	7 10 2
	1890	2,557,772	8 1 1	2,579,258	8 2 5
Western Australia	1881	254,313	8 11 4	197,386	6 13 0
	1882	250,372	8 4 9	205,451	6 15 3
	1883	284,364	9 2 1	240,566	7 14 1
	1884	290,319	8 19 7	291,307	9 0 3
	1885	323,213	9 9 9	308,849	9 1 4
	1886	388,564	10 9 0	394,675	10 12 3
	1887	377,903	9 1 3	456,897	10 19 2
	1888	357,003	8 8 9	385,129	9 2 0
	1889	382,213	8 17 7	386,000	8 19 4
	1890	414,314	8 12 10	401,751	8 7 7

Colony.	Year.	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
		£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Tasmania -	1881	505,872	4 6 3	468,613	3 19 11
	1882	551,213	4 12 3	502,771	4 4 2
	1883	562,189	4 12 0	533,036	4 7 3
	1884	549,262	4 7 8	584,047	4 13 2
	1885	571,397	4 9 2	585,767	4 11 5
	1886	568,924	4 7 3	584,756	4 9 8
	1887	594,976	4 8 11	668,759	5 0 0
	1888	640,068	4 13 4	709,486	5 3 5
	1889	678,909	4 16 10	681,674	4 17 2
	1890	758,100	5 5 6	722,746	5 0 7
New Zealand -	1881	3,757,493	7 12 3	3,675,797	7 9 0
	1882	3,917,160	7 13 10	3,824,735	7 10 2
	1883	3,871,267	7 6 3	3,924,005	7 8 3
	1884	3,707,488	6 14 2	4,101,318	7 8 5
	1885	3,859,996	6 16 4	4,282,901	7 11 4
	1886	3,688,016	6 6 9	4,310,875	7 8 1
	1887	3,463,495	5 16 2	3,954,290	6 12 7
	1888	4,109,815	6 15 9	3,962,912	6 10 11
	1889	3,991,919	6 10 6	3,981,721	6 10 2
	1890	4,208,029	6 15 7	4,081,566	6 11 6

Note.—In 1891–92 the approximate revenue of Victoria was 7,728,828*l.*, and the approximate expenditure 8,639,900*l.*

Victorian statements differ from those of New South Wales.

44. It should be pointed out that the Victorian returns of revenue and expenditure are prepared on a somewhat different principle from those of New South Wales, the over-payments to the revenue, afterwards refunded, being in the Victorian statements deducted therefrom, and the net amounts only dealt with. In New South Wales, on the other hand, the refunds are not deducted from the revenue, but are placed under the head of expenditure, both revenue and expenditure being swelled thereby. It is not possible from the official statements of public accounts in New South Wales to ascertain the full extent to which this expansion of both sides of the account occurs; but by a superficial analysis of the accounts of the year 1890, sums can be readily traced, amounting in the aggregate to at least 195,283*l.*, which are included in and go to swell both the revenue and expenditure of that colony, whereas they would not be so included in Victoria, and this cannot be the full extent to which such differences occur. It is not known whether a similar system of cross-entry prevails in the other Australasian colonies, but it is probable such entries are not so rigidly excluded in any of the other colonies, except perhaps New Zealand, as they are in Victoria.

Revenue and expenditure compared.

45. In the last year named in the table, the revenue exceeded the expenditure in all the colonies except Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia, although in the previous year there were

VICTORIA. 1891.

deficiencies in all the colonies except New Zealand. In New South Wales the surplus in 1890 amounted to 95,000*l.*, in Western Australia to nearly 13,000*l.*, in Tasmania to 35,000*l.*, and in New Zealand to 126,000*l.*; but, on the other hand, there were exceptionally large deficiencies of 785,000*l.* and 485,000*l.* in Victoria and Queensland respectively, and one of 21,000*l.* in South Australia, which resulted in a net deficiency in the colonies as a whole, of 1,022,000*l.*, as against a net deficiency in 1889 of 1,550,000*l.*, but a net surplus in 1888 of 1,126,000*l.* During the last ten years referred to in the table there has been a surplus six times in Victoria, five times in New South Wales, Western Australia, and New Zealand, four times in Queensland and Tasmania, and twice in South Australia.

Revenue and expenditure in Colonies, 1890 and former years.

46. In the last year named in the table a larger revenue than in any previous year was raised in all the colonies, except Victoria and Queensland; and a larger expenditure in all but Victoria, Western Australia, and New Zealand.

Revenue and expenditure per head in Colonies.

47. South Australia and Tasmania were the only colonies in which the revenue and expenditure per head was as large in the last year as in any of the previous years named.

Revenue and expenditure of Australia and Australasia.

48. Adding together the amounts of revenue and likewise the amounts of expenditure for 1890, it will be found that on the continent of Australia the former amounted to 24¼ millions, and the latter to over 25¾ millions; also that the aggregate revenue of Australia, with the addition of that of Tasmania and New Zealand, amounted to nearly 29¼ millions, and the aggregate expenditure to over 30½ millions sterling. In Continental Australia there was a deficiency on the year's transactions of a million and a half, and in the Australasian colonies, as a whole, of one million and a third. The following are the exact amounts of revenue and expenditure, also the proportions per head of population:—

Revenue and Expenditure of Australia and Australasia, 1890.

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
Continent of Australia -	24,250,173	8 4 1	25,775,525	8 14 5
Ditto, with Tasmania and New Zealand.	29,216,302	7 17 0	30,579,837	8 4 5

Increased revenue of Australasia in 17 years.

49. A comparison of the aggregate revenue of the colonies upon the Australian continent in 1873 and 1890 shows that in the 17 years it had risen from 9,161,000*l.* to 24,250,000*l.*, the

increase being over 15 million sterling, or 165 per cent. If the revenues of Tasmania and New Zealand be added, the sum shows an aggregate revenue for the whole of Australasia of 12,262,000*l.* at the former, and of 29,216,000*l.* at the latter period, the increase being nearly 17 millions, or 138 per cent. In the same 17 years the mean population of the Australian continent increased from 1,671,051*l.* to 2,970,520*l.*, or by 78 per cent., and the population of the whole of Australasia increased from 2,062,375*l.* to 3,735,034*l.*, or by 81 per cent.

Land revenue in Australasian Colonies.

50. In 1890 the aggregate land revenue of the Australasian colonies amounted to nearly 4,200,000*l.* The following table shows the receipts from the sale and occupation of Crown lands and their proportion to the total revenue in each Australasian colony during 1890. The colonies are arranged in order according to that proportion:—

Land Revenue in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

Colony.	Revenue derived from Crown Lands for—			Proportion of Land Revenue to Total Revenue.
	Alienation in Fee-simple and Progressive Alienation.	Temporary Occupation and Miscellaneous.	Total.	
	£	£	£	Per cent.
Western Australia -	32,842	74,794	107,636	25·98
New South Wales -	1,275,658	967,381	2,243,039	23·62
Queensland - -	190,735	386,133	576,868	17·69
Tasmania - -	47,319	32,646	79,965	10·55
South Australia -	69,445	176,982	246,427	9·63
New Zealand - -	154,584	176,372	330,956	7·86
Victoria (1890–91) -	476,850	136,601	613,451	7·35
Total - -	2,247,433	1,950,909	4,198,342	14·37

Prospective diminution of land revenue in Colonies.

51. It will be noticed that about a seventh of the aggregate revenues of the Australasian colonies in 1890 was derived from Crown lands, and that the proportion amounted to less than a twelfth in Victoria and New Zealand; about a tenth in South Australia and Tasmania; about a sixth in Queensland; and about a fourth in New South Wales and Western Australia. It will also be remarked that in the colonies, as a whole, more than half the land revenue was derived from alienation in fee-simple.

Sources of revenue in Australasia.

52. Of the 29¼ millions sterling which formed the total revenue of the Australasian colonies in 1890, close upon 11½ millions, or nearly two-fifths, was raised by taxation, chiefly through the Customs; 9¼ millions, or something less than one-third, was derived from Railways; over 4 millions from Crown Lands; and not quite two millions from Post and Telegraphs. The following are the exact figures, also the amounts per head, distinguishing

those relating to Continental Australia from those relating to the Australasian colonies taken as a whole :—

Heads of Revenue in Australia and Australasia, 1890.

Heads of Revenue.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Proportions per cent.	Amount.	Proportions per cent.
Taxation—	£		£	
Customs - -	6,574,450	27·11	8,439,385	28·88
Other taxes - -	2,271,268	9·37	3,034,749	10·39
Total - -	8,845,718	36·48	11,474,134	39·27
Crown lands - -	3,753,746	15·48	4,164,667	14·26
Railways - -	8,062,955	33·25	9,309,586	31·87
Post and telegraphs -	1,600,929	6·60	1,999,345	6·84
Other sources - -	1,986,825	8·19	2,268,570	7·76
Total - -	24,250,173	100·00	29,216,302	100·00

Heads of expenditure of Australasian Colonies.

53. The following is a comparative statement of the amounts expended under a few of the principal heads in the respective Colonies during the most recent year for which the particulars are available:—

Heads of Expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

Heads of Expenditure.	Victoria, 1890-91.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways (working expenses).	2,462,582	2,037,168	631,246	567,663	62,270	110,227	725,332
Post and telegraphs	742,666	648,993	318,951	181,996	36,609	67,754	257,684
Interest of public debt.	1,646,884	1,895,656	1,139,035	753,289	57,614	223,652	1,640,289
Immigration - -	—	5,916	7,569	20	1,948	—	—
Other services -	4,276,567	4,815,829	1,648,416	1,076,290	243,310	321,113	1,458,261
Total - -	9,128,699	9,403,562	3,745,217	2,579,258	401,751	722,746	4,081,566
	Proportions per cent.						
Railways (working expenses).	26·98	21·67	16·86	22·01	15·50	15·25	17·77
Post and Telegraphs	8·13	6·90	8·52	7·06	9·11	9·37	6·31
Interest of Public Debt.	18·04	20·16	30·41	29·20	14·34	30·95	40·19
Immigration -	—	·06	·20	—	·49	—	—
Other services -	46·85	51·21	44·01	41·73	60·56	44·43	35·73
Total - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

54. It will be observed that the railway expenditure was smaller by about 433,000*l.* in New South Wales than in Victoria, where it amounted to about 2½ millions sterling, or more than a fourth of the total expenditure, but the interest payable on the public debt was larger by nearly 249,000*l.* in the former than in the latter Colony. In New Zealand also, which had little more than one-half the revenue of Victoria, the interest on the public debt was about the same as in Victoria. Four of the Colonies have now an annual charge for interest varying from 1⅛ to over 1⅞ million sterling. In Victoria the postal and telegraph expenditure is now 743,000*l.*, and in New South Wales close on 649,000*l.* The expenditure on immigration should be considered in conjunction with the loan expenditure which took place during the year.

Heads of expenditure in Australasian Colonies compared.

55. It will also be noticed that about two-fifths of the total expenditure in Western Australia, nearly half in New South Wales, more than half in Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, and South Australia, and nearly two-thirds in New Zealand, was devoted to the working of railways and post and telegraphs, and the payment of interest on the public debt—contracted for the construction of railways and other public works. In Victoria the railway working expenses alone amounted to over one-fourth of the total, and the interest on the public debt to over a sixth; the former being much higher than in any of the other Colonies, but the latter lower than in any except Western Australia. In New Zealand as much as two-fifths, and in Tasmania, Queensland, and South Australia nearly a third, of the whole expenditure was for interest. The proportion expended on postal and telegraph services, it will be noticed, varied from less than 6⅓ per cent. in New Zealand, to 7 per cent. in New South Wales, and South Australia, to over 8 per cent. in Victoria and Queensland, and to over 9 per cent. in Western Australia and Tasmania.

Proportion of expenditure on various objects.

56. The following is a summary of the aggregate expenditure under the various heads referred to for Australia and Australasia:—

Heads of expenditure in Australasia.

Heads of Expenditure in Australia and Australasia, 1890.

Heads of Expenditure.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Amount per cent.	Amount.	Amount per cent.
	£		£	
Railways (working expenses)	5,809,453	22·54	6,645,012	21·73
Post and telegraphs - -	1,895,877	7·35	2,221,315	7·27
Interest on public debt, &c. -	5,393,739	20·93	7,257,680	23·73
Immigration - - -	15,453	·06	15,453	·05
Other services - -	12,661,003	49·12	14,440,377	47·22
Total - -	25,775,525	100·00	30,579,837	100·00

VICTORIA. 1891.

Loan expenditure in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

57. In addition to the expenditure of amounts derived from the general revenue, as shown in the last two tables, all the Colonies spend large sums of borrowed money, chiefly on railways and waterworks, but, also, in some instances, on the construction of electric telegraphs, harbour works and lighthouses, defence works, roads and bridges, school buildings, and other public works, and on immigration. The following table shows the total loan expenditure of the various Colonies during 1890, also the amounts per head:—

Expenditure from Loans in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

Colony.	Expenditure from Loans during 1890.	
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.
	£	£ s. d.
Victoria	3,754,005	3 8 0
New South Wales	2,141,219	1 18 10
Queensland	1,478,269	3 16 8
South Australia	892,267	2 16 5
Western Australia	15,906	0 6 8
Total	8,281,666	2 16 0
Tasmania	1,628,281	11 6 7
New Zealand	398,817	0 12 10
Grand Total	10,308,764	2 15 5

Loan expenditure of different Colonies compared.

58. It will be observed that the aggregate loan expenditure of the Australasian Colonies in 1890 was over 10 millions sterling, of which Victoria spent $3\frac{3}{4}$ millions, New South Wales over 2 millions, and Tasmania and Queensland about $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions each. It will be noticed, however, that the loan expenditure per head of population was less in Victoria than in Queensland or Tasmania —where it was exceptionally high—although greater than in any of the other Colonies.

Heads of loan expenditure in Australia and Australasia.

59. Of the loan expenditure of the Australasian Colonies during 1890 over two-thirds was spent in the construction of railways, nearly one-eighth on waterworks, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in connexion with harbours, rivers, &c., over 3 per cent. on roads and bridges over two-thirds of 1 per cent. on the introduction of immigrants' and the balance (about $10\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.) for other services. The following are the total and proportionate amounts expended under each of these heads in Australia and Australasia respectively during 1890:—

Heads of Loan Expenditure in Australia and Australasia, 1890.

Heads of Loan Expenditure.	Continent of Australia.		Australia with Tasmania and New Zealand.	
	Amount.	Amount per cent.	Amount.	Amount per cent.
	£		£	
Railways - -	5,627,245	67·95	7,208,957	69·93
Water supply - -	1,245,435	15·04	1,246,473	12·09
Roads and bridges - -	89,357	1·08	322,013	3·12
Harbours, rivers, light-houses, &c.	361,669	4·37	361,907	3·51
Immigration - - -	70,049	·84	70,840	·69
Other services - -	887,911	10·72	1,098,574	10·66
Total - - - - -	8,281,666	100·00	10,308,764	100·00

Public debt.

60. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1891 to 43,610,265*l.*, consisting of moneys:—

	£
Borrowed in Victoria - -	1,391,565
„ England - -	42,218,700
Total - -	43,610,265

Purposes for which loans were incurred.

61. The aggregate amount of the loans raised up to the 30th June 1891 was 55,053,885*l.*; but a total of 11,443,620*l.* having been repaid, viz., 2,379,200*l.* out of the general revenue, and 9,064,420*l.* out of the proceeds of redemption loans, the balance outstanding on the 30th June 1891 was reduced to 43,610,265*l.* The amount of public debt borrowed under each of the purposes for which the debt was incurred, the amount paid off, and the amount outstanding on the 30th June 1891 are shown in the following table:—

Purposes for which Loans were Raised.

Public Borrowings contracted for—	Total Amount borrowed.	Amount.		
		Paid off.	Outstanding 30th June 1891.	
			Total.	Per-centage.
REVENUE YIELDING WORKS.	£	£	£	
Railways - - -	34,293,806	344,200	33,949,606	77·85
Tramways in country districts	200,000	—	200,000	·46
Water supply and irrigation—				
Melbourne - - -	3,048,916	800,000	2,248,916	5·16
Country - -	4,505,217	—	4,505,217	10·33
Harbours and docks -	275,554	—	275,554	·63
Graving-dock - - -	350,464	—	350,464	·80
Total revenue yielding -	42,673,957	1,144,200	41,529,757	95·23

Public Borrowings contracted for—	Total Amount borrowed.	Amount. Paid off.	Outstanding 30th June 1891. Total.	Outstanding 30th June 1891. Per-centage.
OTHER WORKS OF A PERMANENT CHARACTER.	£	£	£	
Parliament houses - -	246,453	—	246,453	·56
Law courts - - -	354,260	—	354,260	·81
Public offices - - -	166,195	—	166,195	·38
Defence works - -	100,000	—	100,000	·23
State school buildings -	1,105,557	—	1,105,557	2·54
Prince's Bridge, Melbourne -	108,043	—	108,043	·25
Melbourne and Geelong improvements.	735,000	735,000	—	—
Total permanent works	2,815,508	735,000	2,080,508	4·77
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Treasury bonds - -	500,000	500,000	—	—
Net borrowings -	45,989,465	2,379,200	43,610,265	100·0
Redemption of loans -	9,064,420	9,064,420	—	—
Gross borrowings -	55,053,885	11,443,620	43,610,265	—

Borrowings devoted to revenue producing works.

62. It will be observed that at the present time 95 per cent. of the Victorian borrowings has been devoted to railways, water-works, and other revenue producing works, from which the State derives a considerable income. Only 5 per cent. of the debt is not directly revenue producing, and this has been expended on such useful and permanent works as bridges, defence works, State schools, public buildings, &c.

Rates of interest.

63. About a fourth of the public debt bears interest at 3½ per cent., whilst nearly two-thirds bears interest at 4 per cent., and the balance at higher rates up to 5 per cent., the average being 4·00 per cent. The following are the rates of interest payable on the various amounts of which the public debt of Victoria was composed on the 30th June 1891 :—

Rates of Interest.	Amount at each Rate.
	£
5 per cent. - - -	2,603,800
4½ per cent. - - -	5,000,000
4 per cent. - - -	26,006,465
3½ per cent. - - -	10,000,000
Total - - -	43,610,265

64. Nearly three-fourths of the interest on the debt is payable in July and January, and the remainder in October and April. In connexion with this, Messrs. W. Westgarth & Co., of London, whilst admitting the inconvenience to the Colony of having large interest amounts falling due at one time, have pointed out that the greatest degree of negociability for the stock can only be attained by making the periods of payment uniform for all loans. All but about one-thirtieth of the interest is payable in London, and the remainder in Melbourne. The following table shows the annual interest amounts on the debt as it existed on the 30th June 1891, distinguishing the time when and places where payable.

Interest on debt.

Annual Interest on Public Debt at 30th June 1891.

Rate per cent.	When due	Interest due annually—		
		In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
		£	£	£
5	July and January - -	15,645	105,350	120,995
4½	„ „ - -	—	225,000	225,000
4	„ „ - -	—	598,280	598,280
3½	„ „ - -	—	350,000	350,000
	Total - -	15,645	1,278,630	1,294,275
4	October and April - -	41,979	400,000	441,979
		57,624	1,678,630	1,736,254
	Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.	1,460	7,735	9,195
	Grand Total - -	59,084	1,686,365	1,745,449

NOTE.—According to the Treasurer's Finance Statement, 1890–91, the amount actually *payable* in 1891–2 was 1,709,669*l.* The difference between this and the amount shown in the table (35,780*l.*) is accounted for by the non-payment of 18,280*l.* on debentures not issued to the public, but held by Government on account of trust funds invested, and by only half a year's interest on 1,000,000*l.* floated in July 1891 being chargeable to the financial year.

65. The annual interest on the public debt, as it existed at the end of the financial year 1890–91, was equivalent to an average rate of just 4*l.* per 100*l.*, the average rates on the amounts borrowed for the different works varying from 3½ to 4⅓ per cent. No money has been borrowed at 6 per cent. since 1866, and the 5, 4½, 4, and 3½ per cent. loans floated since, together with the substitution of 4 and 3½ per cent. debentures and stock for the 6 per cents. which had become due, have gradually brought down the rate of interest, so that at the end of 1890–91 it averaged only 4 per cent., as just stated. The following are the particulars of the amounts borrowed for the

Interest on loans for different works.

VICTORIA. 1891.

different works, and the annual interest and average rate of interest thereon :—

Interest on Loans for Different Works.

Purpose for which raised.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June, 1891.	Annual Interest.	
		Amount.	Average Nominal Rate per cent.
	£	£	
Railways - - -	33,949,606	1,361,426	4·01
Tramways in country districts - -	200,000	7,750	3·88
Water supply { Melbourne - -	2,248,916	88,344	3·93
Water supply { Country - -	4,505,217	176,201	3·91
Law Courts and Parliament House -	600,713	25,265	4·27
Public offices - - -	166,195	6,789	4·08
Defences - - - -	100,000	3,500	3·50
State schools - - -	1,105,557	45,222	4·09
Yarra Bridge - - -	108,043	4,622	4·28
Harbours, &c. - - -	275,554	11,022	4·00
Graving dock - - -	350,464	15,308	4·37
Total - - -	43,610,265	1,745,449	4·00

Interest payable and paid.

66. By the last two tables it appears that, on the debt as it stood at the end of 1890–91, the total amount accruing annually as interest is 1,745,449*l.*; but as interest (18,280*l.*) on debentures held by the Government was not paid, and as some of the interest which accrued (on that portion of the debt which was not in existence during the whole of the year) was not payable until the ensuing year, the amount actually paid in 1890–91 was only 1,620,776*l.*, viz., 1,563,783*l.* in London, and 56,993*l.* in Melbourne.

Interest on debt recouped from reproductive works.

67. The real burden of the debt is ascertained by finding how much of the interest is not covered by the net profits arising from those public works on which the loan moneys have been expended, and has therefore to be provided for by taxation, land revenue, &c. Thus, in 1890–91, although the interest which accrued on the public debt of Victoria amounted to 1,672,816*l.*, it was only necessary to provide for 416,681*l.*, or about 25 per cent., by taxation, &c., the remaining 75 per cent. being derived from

ublic works of a reproductive character. The following is a atement of the sources from which the interest was defrayed:—

Interest on Victorian Public Debt, and Sources whence defrayed, 1890–91.

Interest defrayed from—	1890–91.
	£
Net revenue from railways	987,922
„ „ Melbourne water rates	173,171
„ „ graving dock	1,220
Interest on loans to local bodies (actual receipts)	45,542
„ debentures held by Government	18,280
„ unexpended balances in banks (approximate)	30,000
Total	1,256,135
Taxation and land revenue	416,681
Total interest accrued	1,672,816

Interest recouped from reproductive works in Australasian Colonies and Canada.

68. From the best information available similar particulars have been compiled for the other Australian Colonies (except Western Australia) and Canada, with the result that the profits of reproductive public works are found to cover a larger proportion of the interest on the debt in Victoria than in any of the other Colonies of this group, whilst the proportion in Canada is lower than in any Australasian Colony. The following are the proportions referred to:—

Proportion of Interest on Public Debt covered by Earnings of Reproductive Works, 1890.

	Per cent.
Victoria	75·10
New South Wales	67·30
South Australia	60·43
Queensland	27·33
New Zealand	25·27
Tasmania	11·92
Canada	11·21

Debts of Australasian Colonies.

69. The following table shows the total amount of debt, and the indebtedness per head, in Victoria and the other Australasian Colonies on the 31st December of every fifth year from 1875;

also of the three years 1888, 1889, and 1890; also the number of years' revenue the debt was equal to in each of those years:—

Public Debts of the Australasian Colonies.

Colony.	Year.	On the 31st December.		
		Total Amount of Debt.	Amount of Indebtedness per Head.	Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to
		£	£ s. d.	
Victoria	1875	13,995,093	17 0 0	3·30
	1880	22,060,749	25 13 0	4·77
	1885	28,628,588	29 10 9	4·55
	1888	34,627,382	32 3 0	4·55
	1889	37,367,027	33 17 1	4·31
	1890	41,443,216	36 11 5	4·86
New South Wales	1875	11,470,637	19 6 0	2·78
	1880	14,903,919	19 18 6	3·04
	1885	35,564,259	37 9 1	4·69
	1888	44,100,149	41 19 2	4·96
	1889	46,646,449	43 2 4	5·15
	1890	48,425,333	43 3 4	5·11
Queensland	1875	6,435,250	35 1 0	4·72
	1880	12,192,150	53 18 7	7·56
	1885	19,320,850	61 4 10	6·80
	1888	25,840,950	70 4 7	7·46
	1889	25,840,950	67 18 2	7·51
	1890	28,105,684	71 17 4	8·62
South Australia	1875	3,320,600	15 15 7	2·90
	1880	9,865,500	36 17 5	4·86
	1885	17,020,900	54 6 2	7·37
	1888	19,147,700	61 9 5	7·68
	1889	20,435,500	64 13 4	9·00
	1890	21,151,500	66 5 6	8·27
Western Australia	1875	135,000	5 1 1	·86
	1880	361,000	12 8 9	2·00
	1885	1,288,100	36 12 4	3·99
	1888	1,275,200	30 5 3	3·57
	1889	1,371,981	31 7 11	3·59
	1890	1,367,444	27 15 10	3·30
Tasmania	1875	1,489,400	14 7 4	4·35
	1880	1,943,700	16 18 9	4·42
	1885	3,357,000	25 19 5	5·88
	1888	4,499,470	32 10 6	7·03
	1889	5,019,050	35 6 0	7·39
	1890	6,432,800	44 5 6	8·48
New Zealand	1875	17,400,031	46 5 11	6·18
	1880	28,583,231	58 19 0	8·71
	1885	35,790,422	62 4 5	8·74
	1888	38,325,550	63 2 0	9·33
	1889	38,483,250	62 9 4	9·64
	1890	38,832,350	62 1 8	9·23

70. If the amounts of debt at the latest period shown in the table be added together, it will be found that the aggregate debt of the Colonies on the continent of Australia was 140½ millions, being nearly 9 millions more than in 1889; and the aggregate debt of Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, somewhat exceeded 185¾ millions sterling, being over 10½ millions more than in 1889. The following are the exact figures for 1890, also the proportion of indebtedness per head of the population, and the proportion the aggregate debt bore to the aggregate revenue of the Colonies within the same limits:—

Public debt of Australia and Australasia.

Public Debt of Australia and Australasia, 1890.

—	Public Debt.		
	Total Amount.	Amount per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ s. d.	Per cent.
Continent of Australia - - -	140,493,177	46 12 1	5·79
Ditto with Tasmania and New Zealand - - - -	185,758,327	49 1 6	6·36

71. It will be observed that a combination of the indebtedness of the insular Colonies with that of the Colonies upon the Australian continent gives a proportion of debt per head higher by about 2*l.* 10*s.*, than such a proportion applied to the continental Colonies alone, in explanation of which it will be remembered that, although, in proportion to population, Tasmania's indebtedness is somewhat below the average, New Zealand is one of the most heavily indebted Colonies of the group.

Debt per head higher in Australasia than in Australia.

72. The purposes for which the public debts of the Australasian Colonies were incurred may be classified under three heads—(1.) Works yielding direct revenue, including all immediately reproductive works, such as railways, telegraphs, waterworks, harbour and river improvements, &c.; (2.) Other works of a permanent character not returning direct revenue—including roads and bridges, defence works, school buildings, and other public works and buildings; (3.) Miscellaneous—including introduction of immigrants, amounts borrowed to cover deficiencies in revenue, and amounts unapportioned to their proper heads. In the following table the debt of each Colony is classified under these three heads:—

Classification of debts of Australasian Colonies.

Purposes for which Public Debts of Australasian Colonies were Incurred.

(Amounts outstanding on the 31st December 1890.)

Purposes for which Incurred.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1.—WORKS YIELDING DIRECT REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Railways and tramways	32,156,128	32,571,007	16,401,085	11,374,903	832,498	3,282,252	14,104,093
Electric telegraphs	—	735,493	806,824	848,081	234,741	102,471	606,648
Water supply (including sewerage).	6,580,562	4,574,848	251,526	3,307,300	7,725	—	561,101
Harbours, rivers, lighthouses, and docks.	626,019	2,883,476	1,822,197	1,389,562	69,620	1,655,288	881,818
Total	39,362,709	40,764,824	19,281,632	16,919,846	1,144,584	5,040,011	16,153,660
2.—OTHER WORKS OF A PERMANENT CHARACTER.							
Roads and bridges	108,042	625,955	853,735	1,428,284	49,680	—	3,598,163
Defence works	100,000	864,581	151,584	250,645	—	120,868	429,719
School buildings	1,105,557	148,906	—	680,300	—	120,428	—
Other public works and buildings.	766,908	1,142,289	2,107,908	471,425	154,262	590,988	2,132,955
Total	2,080,507	2,781,731	3,113,227	2,830,654	203,942	832,284	6,160,837
3.—MISCELLANEOUS.							
Immigration	—	569,930	2,691,775	—	—	235,714	2,145,150
Deficiencies in revenue (including Treasury bonds).	—	2,373,884	397,336	810,000	—	286,871	218,500
Balance { Other services	—	49,855	—	591,000	4,298	37,920	1,279,663
Balance { Unapportioned	—	1,885,109	2,621,714	—	14,620	—	12,874,540
Total	—	4,878,778	5,710,825	1,401,000	18,918	560,505	16,517,853
Grand Total	41,443,216	48,425,333	28,105,684	21,151,500	1,367,444	6,432,800	38,832,350

Purposes for which debts of Australasian Colonies were contracted.

73. The major portion of the public debt of each of the Australasian Colonies was contracted for the purpose of railway construction, but smaller amounts were borrowed for water supply, immigration, electric telegraphs, harbour and defence works, roads and bridges, school-houses, and other public works. Up to the end of 1890, New South Wales and Victoria had borrowed a larger amount for railway construction than any other Colony, the amount being over 32,000,000*l.* in both cases, as against 16,400,000*l.* borrowed for the same purpose by Queensland, over 14,000,000*l.* by New Zealand, and nearly 11,400,000*l.* by South Australia. Victoria has borrowed more for water supply than any other Colony, the total amount being 6,500,000*l.*, as against 4,600,000*l.* borrowed by New South Wales, and 3,300,000*l.* borrowed by South Australia, for the same object. No portion of the public debt of Victoria, South Australia, or Western Australia has been contracted for the promotion of immigration,

but up to the end of 1890 Queensland and New Zealand had borrowed over two and a half and over two millions respectively for immigration purposes, whilst New South Wales and Tasmania had borrowed considerably smaller sums. VICTORIA. 1891.

74. Ninety-five per cent. of the Victorian public debt was incurred for the purpose of being expended upon revenue-producing public works, which is a larger proportion than in any of the other Colonies. This is shown by the following figures, which give the proportion so incurred in each Colony:— Order of Colonies in respect to borrowings for productive works.

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportion of Debt incurred for reproductive Works.

	Per cent.
1. Victoria - - - -	94·98
2. New South Wales - - -	84·18
3. Western Australia - - -	83·76
4. South Australia - - -	80·00
5. Tasmania - - - -	78·35
6. Queensland - - - -	68·60
7. New Zealand - - - -	41·60

75. The marriages returned to the Registrar-General in 1891 numbered 8,780, as against 9,187 in 1890, 9,194 in 1889, and 8,946 in 1888. Marriages, 1891.

76. The marriages returned in 1891, although fewer than in the three previous years, were more numerous than those in any year prior to those. The number returned annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made which continued until the year preceding that under review. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages returned exceeded 6,000; in 1884 they exceeded 7,000; in 1888 they nearly reached 9,000; and in 1889 and 1890 they exceeded that number by nearly 200; but in 1891 they again fell below 9,000. Marriages, 1891, and former years.

77. The proportion which the number of marriages bears to the total population is generally called the marriage rate. This for many years was declining in Victoria, for, whilst in the three years prior to 1863 it was above 8 per 1,000 of both sexes, and all ages; from 1863 to 1865 it was between 7 and 8; and from 1866 to 1878 it was between 6 and 7 per 1,000. It reached its lowest point, 5·98 per 1,000, in 1879; then gradually revived, until the period between 1888 and 1890, when it again exceeded 8 per 1,000 for the first time since 1862. In 1891 a somewhat sudden fall took place to 7·7 per 1,000, which was about the same average as that prevailing during the four years prior to 1888. Marriage rate.

78. The following table gives a statement of the number of marriages to every 1,000 of the population of the various Australasian Colonies for each year from 1865 to 1891, except Western Australia, for which Colony it is given for the last 20 of those years:— Marriage rates in Australasian Colonies.

Marriage Rates in Australasian Colonies, 1865 to 1891.

Year.	Number of Marriages per 1,000 of Mean Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1865 -	7·36	8·94	13·27	9·45	—	6·27	10·47
1866 -	6·76	8·26	11·61	8·12	—	5·93	10·32
1867 -	6·97	7·84	9·54	8·20	—	6·10	9·69
1868 -	7·08	8·23	8·33	7·37	—	6·57	9·35
1869 -	6·89	8·04	8·31	6·78	—	6·44	8·32
1870 -	6·63	7·85	7·80	6·90	—	6·62	7·62
1871 -	6·37	7·78	8·06	6·77	—	5·90	7·15
1872 -	6·36	7·46	8·70	7·20	5·56	6·17	6·85
1873 -	6·50	8·05	9·66	8·00	6·25	6·36	7·91
1874 -	6·33	7·70	8·62	8·00	6·96	6·83	8·87
1875 -	6·33	7·88	8·63	8·01	7·26	6·63	8·94
1876 -	6·21	7·66	7·57	8·49	7·07	7·13	8·25
1877 -	6·31	7·94	7·57	8·66	6·38	7·79	7·63
1878 -	6·20	8·08	6·98	9·47	6·50	7·96	8·03
1879 -	5·98	7·80	7·49	8·81	7·57	7·23	7·60
1880 -	6·22	7·68	6·97	8·69	7·42	7·38	6·71
1881 -	6·79	8·27	7·71	8·33	6·60	7·30	6·65
1882 -	7·09	8·70	8·56	8·73	7·07	8·11	7·07
1883 -	7·44	8·83	8·93	8·49	6·95	9·16	6·82
1884 -	7·74	8·47	8·91	8·28	7·11	8·00	6·88
1885 -	7·73	8·22	9·20	7·82	7·51	8·22	6·73
1886 -	7·86	8·06	8·52	6·35	7·99	7·55	5·99
1887 -	7·64	7·55	8·41	6·36	7·58	7·02	5·97
1888 -	8·48	7·57	9·01	6·67	7·18	6·93	5·97
1889 -	8·43	7·06	8·34	6·57	6·97	6·89	5·94
1890 -	8·21	7·15	8·28	7·04	6·18	6·64	6·12
1891 -	7·66	7·39	7·22	7·29	8·06	6·63	6·05
Means	7·02	7·95	8·60	7·80	7·01	7·03	7·55

Marriage rates in Colonies compared.

79. According to an average extending over the whole of the years named in the table, the marriage rate in Victoria was almost identical with that in Western Australia and Tasmania, but was below that in any of the other Colonies; in the last year, however, the marriage rate was highest in Western Australia, and next highest in Victoria, whilst the Colonies in which it was lowest were New Zealand and Tasmania.

Marriages of divorced persons, 1891.

80. Divorced persons marrying are classed as bachelors and spinsters, unless in cases where they had become widowers or widows before contracting the marriage from which they were released by divorce. Twenty-two divorced men and 23 divorced women were married in 1891; 18 of the former married spinsters, and three widows; 18 of the latter married bachelors, and four widowers, and in one instance both parties to the marriage had been divorced. At least 30 of the 45 divorced persons marrying in 1891 had been divorced in the last two years. In the previous year only seven divorced men and 19 divorced women were re-married.

Deserted husbands and wives.

81. Persons whose wives or husbands have not been heard of for a period of seven years may marry again without rendering themselves liable to be prosecuted for bigamy; but such unions are subject to the serious disadvantage that the issue by the second marriage would be illegitimate, and the marriage itself

void, if it should turn out that the first husband or wife was alive at the time thereof. Owing probably to the facilities afforded by the Divorce Act, passed in 1889, for obtaining a divorce in such cases, only one deserted person (a male) availed himself of this provision in 1891. He married a widow, and had not heard of his former wife for nine years. In the previous year four deserted wives and one deserted husband re-married.

Divorce Act, 1889.

82. It may be mentioned that by the Divorce Act, 1889 (53 Vict., No. 1056), which received the Royal Assent on the 13th May 1890, it is provided that any married person domiciled in Victoria for two years and upwards may obtain a divorce, after which he or she may legally re-marry, on proving that he or she had, without just cause or excuse, been wilfully deserted, and continuously so deserted over a period of three years or upwards.

Ages of bridegrooms and brides in combination.

83. The age of both bridegroom and bride was specified in the case of all but 71 of the 8,780 marriages which took place in 1891. In 57 of the defective entries the age of neither party was given; in seven cases the age of the husband was stated, but not that of his wife; also in seven instances the age of the wife was given, but not that of the husband. The following table shows the ages of the husbands and of the wives in combination:—

Ages of Bridegrooms and Brides in combination, 1891.

Ages of Husbands.	Ages of Wives.																			Total Husbands.
	Under 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 to 75.	Unspecified.	
16 to 17 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
17 to 18 „	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
18 to 19 „	-	1	1	1	3	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
19 to 20 „	-	2	3	10	8	10	4	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	47
20 to 21 „	-	-	5	10	23	21	19	37	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122
21 to 25 „	1	2	24	59	149	218	255	1353	345	44	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2461
25 to 30 „	-	2	13	44	111	150	221	1523	1094	172	33	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	3376
30 to 35 „	-	1	3	8	19	49	56	484	515	239	60	17	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	1456
35 to 40 „	-	-	1	1	6	5	10	105	200	113	58	22	7	1	-	1	-	-	-	530
40 to 45 „	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	31	68	55	44	28	10	3	1	-	-	-	-	244
45 to 50 „	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	11	23	44	27	19	17	7	2	2	-	-	-	156
50 to 55 „	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	10	23	16	18	14	9	3	1	1	-	-	103
55 to 60 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	7	12	8	13	16	9	5	-	-	-	73
60 to 65 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	6	9	9	14	15	17	8	-	-	-	84
65 to 70 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	1	1	1	6	6	2	2	-	-	27
70 to 75 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	3	-	5	1	-	-	15
75 to 80 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	4
81 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Unspecified	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	64
Total Wives	1	8	51	136	322	463	572	3568	2269	709	269	134	82	63	38	25	4	2	64	8780

NOTE.—This table may be read thus:—Two men between 25 and 30 married girls between 15 and 16; nine women between 35 and 40 married men between 21 and 25, &c.

VICTORIA. 1891.

Relative ages of husband and wife.

84. An examination of the 8,709 cases in which the ages of both parties are specified will show that in 2,851 instances, or 33 per cent. of the whole, both parties to the marriage were about the same age; in 825 instances, or 9 per cent. of the whole, wife was older than the husband; and in 5,033 instances, orthe 58 per cent. of the whole, the husband was older than the wife.

Inequalities of age.

85. Some striking inequalities of age amongst the parties married appear in several of the columns, as, for instance, a man aged 81 married a woman between 21 and 25, one between 70 and 75 married a woman between 25 and 30; two men between 65 and 70 married women between 21 and 25; and two between 50 and 55 married girls under 21. On the other hand, three women between 21 and 25 married youths of 18; a woman between 30 and 35 married a youth of 20; three women between 50 and 55 married men between 30 and 35; a woman between 60 and 65 married a man between 35 and 40.

Extreme ages of marriage.

86. It will be noticed that two youths aged 16 and two aged 17 took upon themselves the cares and responsibilities of matrimony, their wives, moreover, being only a little older. On the other hand, it will be remarked that six men who had passed the age of 75, two of them being 81 years of age, entered the marriage state, the partners of three of them being also advanced in life.

Births, 1891.

87. The births registered in Victoria during 1891 numbered 38,505, as against 37,578 in 1890. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 927.

Births in 1891 and former years.

88. During the 20 years ended with 1883, the number of births in Victoria had remained almost stationary; but in 1884 a marked increase took place, which has continued during the seven subsequent years, the number of births in 1891 being the highest recorded.

Birth rate.

89. In proportion to population, the births decreased steadily for a number of years. The lowest point was reached in 1882, since which year there has been a gradual improvement, the birth rate in 1891, although slightly lower than in 1890, having been higher than it had been in any other year since 1876.

Births of males and females.

90. The births of males in Victoria during 1891 numbered 19,598, those of females 18,907. These numbers furnish a proportion of 103·66 boys to 100 girls. In 1890 the proportion was 104·19, in 1889 as high as 106·05, and in 1888, 104·33; whilst in the ten years 1881–90, 160,057 births of males and 152,508 births of females were registered, giving a proportion of 104·95 boys to 100 girls.

91. In 1891, 407 twin births and three triple births were registered, as against 353 twin births and three triple births in 1890. In the ten years ended with 1890, 2,734 cases of twins and 20 cases of triplets were recorded, the total number of births in the same period having been 312,565. There were thus 309,791 confinements in the ten years, and it follows that one mother in every 113 gave birth to twins, and one mother in every 15,490 was delivered of three children at a birth. During the previous decade, 1871 to 1880, one mother in every 111, on the average, gave birth to twins, and one in every 12,796 was delivered of three children at a birth. Twins and triplets.

92. The illegitimate children born in 1891 numbered 2,064, or one to every 19 births registered, which proportion was the same as in the preceding year. In the 10 years 1881–90, out of 312,565 infants born, 14,916 were traced as having been born out of wedlock, which numbers furnish a proportion of one illegitimate child to every 21 births, as compared with an average during the 10 years ended with 1880 of one to every 27 births. Illegitimate births.

93. The deaths registered in 1891 numbered 18,631, as against 18,012 in 1890. The increase in the year under notice was thus 619, or 3½ per cent. Deaths, 1891.

94. In 1889, for the first time, the deaths exceeded 19,000, and although those in 1891 did not reach that number, they were more numerous than those in any other previous year. In 1887 and 1888 they did not much exceed 16,000; in 1886 they numbered less than 15,000, but in only one prior year, viz., 1875, did they reach that number. The high mortality in the last-named year, in which 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form. Deaths, 1891, and former years.

95. The births in 1891 exceeded the deaths by 19,874, or 107 per cent., the corresponding proportion being 109 per cent. in the previous year. The proportion in 1891 was exceeded in all but eight of the previous 25 years. In the 10 years ended with 1890 the proportion averaged 107 per cent., and in the 10 years ended with 1880 it averaged 119 per cent., whilst during the whole period of 26 years ended with 1891 the average was 116 per cent. Excess of births over deaths.

96. During the 10 years, 1882–91, the population of Victoria increased at the average rate of 1·66 per cent. by excess of births over deaths, at which rate, irrespective of immigration, the population would double itself in 42 years. The rates varied from a minimum of 1·49 in 1882 to a maximum of 1·77 in 1890, as will be seen by the following figures:— Natural increase of population.

Increase of Population by Excess of Births over Deaths, 1882 *to* 1891.

	Per cent.		Per cent.
1882 - -	1·49	1888 - -	1·76
1883 - -	1·62	1889 - -	1·58
1884 - -	1·67	1890 - -	1·77
1885 - -	1·65	1891 - -	1·76
1886 - -	1·64		
1887 - -	1·70	Mean - -	1·66

Deaths of males and females.

97. In Victoria, deaths of males in 1891 numbered 10,666, and deaths of females, 7,965. These numbers furnish a proportion of nearly 75 females to every 100 males, as against a proportion of 74 females to every 100 males in the 10 years 1882–91, and of 74 to every 100 in the 10 years 1872–81. Females in the total population were in the proportion of 90 to every 100 males during 1891 and the last decennial period, and 88 during the preceding decennium; therefore at each period more males and fewer females died than their relative numbers in the population might have given reason to expect.

Annual death rate.

98. The following table shows the estimated mean population of either sex, the number of deaths of either sex, and the death rate of males and females, and of both sexes, during each of the last 31 years:—

Annual Death Rate, 1861 *to* 1891.

Year.	Estimated Mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1861 -	324,988	214,836	6,124	4,398	18·84	20·47	19·49
1862 -	322,916	225,164	5,900	4,180	18·27	18·56	18·39
1863 -	325,680	237,280	5,646	3,856	17·34	16·25	16·88
1864 -	335,272	251,178	5,202	3,685	15·51	14·67	15·15
1865 -	347,083	264,135	6,158	4,303	17·74	16·29	17·11
1866 -	353,941	275,097	7,016	5,270	19·82	19·16	19·53
1867 -	359,642	284,634	6,613	5,120	18·39	17·99	18·21
1868 -	367,752	295,340	5,865	4,202	15·95	14·23	15·18
1869 -	379,396	307,806	6,221	4,409	16·40	14·32	15·47
1870 -	392,159	321,036	6,114	4,306	15·59	13·41	14·61
1871 -	403,319	333,686	5,845	4,073	14·49	12·21	13·46
1872 -	409,081	344,117	6,308	4,523	15·42	13·14	14·38
1873 -	412,597	352,914	6,565	4,936	15·91	13·99	15·02
1874 -	416,725	360,931	6,994	5,228	16·78	14·48	15·72
1875 -	419,779	367,558	8,563	6,724	20·40	18·29	19·42
1876 -	422,931	373,627	7,716	5,845	18·24	15·64	17·02
1877 -	427,727	380,878	7,345	5,431	17·17	14·26	15·80
1878 -	433,153	388,313	7,179	5,523	16·57	14·22	15·46
1879 -	438,563	395,467	7,033	5,087	16·04	12·86	14·53
1880 -	446,445	403,898	6,610	5,042	14·81	12·48	13·70
1881 -	456,107	412,835	7,024	5,278	15·40	12·78	14·16
1882 -	467,130	422,590	7,900	5,784	16·91	13·57	15·32
1883 -	478,010	432,120	7,410	5,596	15·50	12·95	14·29

Year.	Estimated Mean Population.		Number of Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Males	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1884 -	490,460	442,170	7,675	5,830	15·65	13·21	14·48
1885 -	504,000	452,880	8,300	6,064	16·47	13·39	15·01
1886 -	519,970	464,890	8,575	6,377	16·49	13·72	15·18
1887 -	537,920	478,830	9,213	6,792	17·13	14·19	15·74
1888 -	558,700	496,280	9,385	6,902	16·80	13·90	15·44
1889 -	576,520	513,830	11,064	8,328	19·19	16·21	17·78
1890 -	589,310	529,190	10,369	7,643	17·60	14·44	16·10
1891 -	600,860	546,070	10,666	7,965	17·75	14·59	16·24
Average of 31 years - -					16·90	14·59	15·83

NOTE.—In 1861, 1866, and 1875, and to a certain extent in the preceding and in the succeeding years, the death rate was swelled by epidemics of measles and scarlatina.

Death rates in town and country, 1891.

99. In every country the death rate is higher in towns than it is in the extra urban districts. The circumstance, although no doubt partly attributable to the superior healthfulness and immunity from contagion prevailing in the latter, is also to a great extent due to the fact that hospitals and charitable institutions, which are frequented by patients from the country as well as by town residents, are generally situated in the towns; and further, that outside of charitable institutions many persons die who have come from the country on the approach of serious illness for the sake of the superior nursing and medical attendance to be obtained in town. In 1891 the death rate was much lower in Melbourne and suburbs than in the country towns, whilst in the former it was nearly twice as high, and in the latter more than twice as high as in the country districts. The rate in Melbourne was considerably below, but that for country towns and for rural districts was much above, the average of the previous 10 years. The following are the figures :—

Deaths in Urban and Country Districts, 1891.

Districts.	Estimated Mean Population.	Deaths, 1891.		
		Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.	
			1891.	Annual Mean, 1881-90.
Melbourne and suburbs (Greater Melbourne).	491,700	9,368	19·05	20·65
Extra-metropolitan towns	195,940	4,465	22·79	19·90
Country districts - -	459,290	4,798	10·45	8·90
Total -	1,146,930	18,631	16·24	15·20

VICTORIA. 1891.

Royal Mint.

100. A branch of the Royal Mint was established in Melbourne in 1872 and was opened to the public on the 12th June of that year. The premises occupy 2 acres 1 rood and 26 perches of land, valued in October 1880 at 8,500*l.*, but now probably worth ten times that amount; the original cost of the buildings, machinery, fittings, and furniture was 68,350*l.*

Gold received at Mint.

101. From the time of the opening of the Mint to the end of 1891, 12⅔ million ounces of gold were received thereat. In point of average purity, the gold sent to the Mint is considerably above the standard (viz., 22 carats, worth 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per oz.), and thus the value of the whole quantity was rather over 51⅓ millions sterling, or almost exactly 4*l.* per oz. The following table shows the quantity and value of the gold received in each year:—

Gold received at the Melbourne Mint, 1872 *to* 1891.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Oz.	£
1872	190,765	765,024
1873	221,904	887,256
1874	335,366	1,349,290
1875	489,823	1,948,067
1876	543,304	2,149,890
1877	378,410	1,492,207
1878	570,079	2,268,001
1879	656,724	2,638,393
1880	758,937	3,062,663
1881	692,425	2,793,810
1882	819,142	3,311,894
1883	786,021	3,159,609
1884	945,709	3,803,320
1885	836,433	3,351,767
1886	756,611	3,029,783
1887	770,222	3,075,487
1888	757,813	3,023,414
1889	761,931	3,030,958
1890	752,923	3,003,635
1891	805,231	3,208,352
Total	12,829,773	51,352,820

Gold received in standard ounces.

101. A simple calculation, based upon the total value as shown in the lowest line of the last column of the table, will show that the gold received amounted to 13,188,525 ounces standard, valued at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* per ounce, or 358,752 ounces more than the actual weight of gold received at the Mint.

Gold received, 1891.

103. It will be observed that the gold received at the Mint in 1891 was more by 52,308 ounces than the quantity in 1890, and was also more than in any other year since 1885.

Gold coin issued.

104. The difference in value between the gold coin issued from the Mint in 1890 and 1891 was 276,000*l.*, the excess being in favour of the latter. The gold coin issued in 1891 was less than

that in 1888, 1887, 1886, 1885, 1884, or 1880; it was, however, in excess of that in any other year.

Number of banks.

105. During 1891 there were 17 banks of issue in Victoria, possessing therein 510 branches or agencies. There were only 11 banks of issue in the Colony both in 1886 and 1881.

Liabilities, assets, &c. of banks.

106. The position of the banks as regards liabilities, assets, capital and profits, according to the sworn returns for the last quarter of the three years just named, was as follows :—

Financial Position of Banks, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

——	1881.	1886.	1891.
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Notes in circulation	1,359,495	1,399,208	1,414,216
Bills in circulation	60,198	92,981	115,606
Balances due to other banks	330,414	354,328	298,328
Deposits not bearing interest	7,425,356	7,239,681	9,894,548
„ bearing interest	13,726,554	23,999,791	30,521,519
Total	22,902,017	33,085,989	42,244,217
ASSETS.			
Coined gold, silver, and other metals	2,695,474	4,565,990	6,801,989
Gold and silver in bullion or bars	313,017	366,950	322,508
Landed and other property	901,253	1,222,260	2,185,423
Notes and bills of other banks	144,034	151,089	188,660
Balances due from other banks	336,611	239,556	451,342
Debts due to the banks	22,783,420	34,625,144	53,770,624
Total	27,173,809	41,170,989	63,720,546
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.			
Capital stock paid up	9,143,122	9,568,418	13,563,255
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared.	9·981 per cent.	12·141 per cent.	12·139 per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared	456,300	580,875	823,274
Amount of reserved profits after declaring dividend.	2,694,329	4,669,116	6,913,634

Liabilities, assets, &c., compared at three periods.

107. It will be observed that the shareholders' capital (including reserves) amounted in 1891 to nearly 20½ millions, having increased by 8,640,000*l.*, or by nearly three-fourths, since 1881. The total liabilities show an increase of 19⅓ millions, or 84 per cent., since 1881, or of more than 9 millions, or 28 per cent., since 1886; whilst the total assets increased by 36½ millions, or 135 per cent., since 1881, and by 22½ millions, or 55 per cent., since 1886. This expansion in banking business has been

VICTORIA. 1891.

greater than that of the population, which, during the 10 years ended with 1891 increased by only 31 per cent. Of the liabilities the notes and bills in circulation have increased only 8 per cent. since 1881, and 2⅓ per cent. since 1886, the former being restricted by a Government tax and other charges, which are said to average as much as 3½ per cent. The deposits, which now compose 96 per cent. of the total liabilities, have increased by over 19¼ millions in the last 10, and by more than 9 millions in the last 5, years, and now amount to nearly 40½ millions. Under the head of assets it will be noticed that in 1891 the banks had 7⅛ millions sterling in coin and bullion, which was slightly less (59,000*l.*) than in 1890, but 590,000*l.* more than in 1889, and was nearly 2⅓ millions more than in 1886, and considerably more than twice as much as in 1881; the landed property also represented nearly 2⅕ millions sterling, showing an increase of over 963,000*l.* since 1886, or of 1,284,000*l.* since 1881; but the most important item of all, the advances (debts due to the banks), which embrace 84 per cent. of the total assets, shows a marked advance in recent years, for since 1881 they have increased by nearly 31 millions, and since 1886 by more than 19 millions, and thus in 1891 they amounted to 53¾ millions sterling. It will be observed that in 1891 the advances exceeded the deposits by 13⅓ millions as against an excess of but 3½ millions in 1886 and only 1⅔ millions in 1881. The average rate of the last dividend declared in 1891 (12*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* per 100*l.*) was about the same as the middle period, but much higher than at the first period. This dividend, it may be remarked, varied in different banks in 1891 from 5 to 17½ per cent.

Savings banks.

108. Two kinds of savings banks exist in Victoria, the general savings banks, which were first established in 1842, and the Post Office savings banks, which were established in 1865. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors having accounts at the last dates of balancing in 1891, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances at such dates:—

Savings Banks, 1891.

Description of Institution.	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount remaining on Deposit.	
			Total.	Average to each Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Post Office savings banks -	370	107,671	2,083,203	19 6 11
General savings banks -	18	193,110	3,632,484	18 16 2
Total - -	388	300,781	5,715,687	19 0 1

Rate of interest in savings banks.

109. The highest rate of interest savings banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent., which rate was

paid in all the years. Interest is allowed on the minimum monthly balance, but not on any amounts which do not remain in the savings banks for a full month.

Male and female depositors.

110. In the general savings banks, the male depositors in 1891 numbered 106,637, and the female depositors 86,473, or about 81 of the latter to 100 of the former. In the general population the proportion of females per 100 males is 91, so that relatively to their respective numbers females do not appear to use the savings banks as much as males.

Small depositors.

111. Nearly four-fifths of the depositors in general savings banks have less than 20*l.* to their credit, and nearly a tenth have between 20*l.* and 50*l.*

Savings banks in Melbourne.

112. The deposits in the general savings banks of Melbourne and suburbs amount to over three-fifths of the whole, and the depositors to about two-thirds.

Savings banks in Australasian Colonies.

113. The following is a statement of the number of depositors and their proportion to population, also the total and average amount standing to their credit in the savings banks of the various Australasian Colonies at the end of 1890:—

Savings Banks in Australasian Colonies, 1890.

(Including both general and Post Office savings banks.)

Colony.	Number of Depositors.		Amount remaining on Deposit.	
	Total.	Per 100 of Population.	Total.	Average to each Depositor.
	£		£	£ s. d.
Victoria - - -	288,240	25·44	5,405,644	18 15 1
New South Wales - -	143,826	12·73	4,730,469	32 17 9
Queensland - - -	45,885	11·73	1,666,855	36 6 6
South Australia - -	70,873	22·75	2,078,576	29 6 7
Western Australia - -	3,014	6·13	31,486	10 8 11
Tasmania - - -	25,324	17·43	521,250	20 11 9
New Zealand - -	118,344	18·92	3,137,023	26 10 2
Total - -	695,506	18·37	17,571,303	25 5 3

Rate of interest in Australasian savings banks.

114. In Victoria the rate of interest paid in both descriptions of savings banks is 4 per cent., as already stated, but the rate paid in the other Australasian Colonies is often higher than in Victoria. Thus, in New South Wales, whilst the rate in the Post Office savings banks is 4 per cent., as in Victoria, that in the general savings banks is 5 per cent. for accounts remaining open at end of year, only 4 per cent., however, being allowed on closed accounts; in Queensland the rate is 4 per cent. on deposits below 200*l.*; in South Australia it is 5 per cent.; in Tasmania the rates are 5 per cent. on sums up to 150*l.* in the general, and 3½ per cent. in the Post Office savings banks; and in New

Zealand they are 5 and 4½ per cent. respectively. On the other hand, the rate is only 3¾ per cent. in Western Australia.

Order of Colonies in respect to proportion of depositors to population.

115. In proportion to population, the number of depositors is greatest in Victoria, and the next in South Australia, in both of which the proportion is much higher than in the other Colonies. The following is the order of the Colonies in this respect:—

Order of Colonies in reference to Proportion of Depositors in Savings Banks to Population.

1. Victoria,
2. South Australia.
3. New Zealand.
4. Tasmania.
5. New South Wales.
6. Queensland.
7. Western Australia.

Order of Colonies in respect to average amount of deposits.

116. Judged by the average amounts to the credit of depositors the savings banks of Queensland, New South Wales, and South Australia appear to attract the larger capitalists in a greater degree than any of the other Colonies; but those of Victoria, more than any other Colony, except Western Australia, appear rather to attract persons of small means, for whom savings banks are specially established. The following is the order of the Colonies in reference to the average balance lying to the credit of each depositor:—

Order of Colonies in reference to Average Balance of Depositors in Savings Banks.

1. Queensland.
2. New South Wales.
3. South Australia.
4. New Zealand.
5. Tasmania.
6. Victoria.
7. Western Australia.

Imports, exports, and trade.

117. In 1891 the total declared value of the Victorian imports was 21,711,608*l.*, and that of the exports 16,006,743*l.*; the excess of imports over exports was 5,704,865*l.*, and the whole value of external trade was 37,718,351*l.*

Imports and exports last two years.

118. The value of imports was lower in 1891 than in 1890 by 1,242,407*l.*, or by 5½ per cent., but the value of exports was higher than in that year by 2,740,521*l.*, or by 21 per cent. The value of the total trade was thus higher than in the previous year by 1,498,114*l.*

Imports and exports latest and former years.

119. The imports in 1891, as indicated by their values, were larger than in any other year of the Colony's history, except 1888, 1889, and 1890; whilst the exports, according to the same standard, showed a decided advance on the exceptionally small volume of export trade which prevailed in the years 1886 to 1890, and were higher than in any previous years except 1884, 1883, 1882, and 1881.

Imports and exports per head.

120. In the year under review, the value per head of imports was lower by 1*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*, but the value per head of exports was higher by 2*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, than in 1890.

121. The following table gives the total value and value per head of articles of Victorian produce exported, and their proportion to the total exports, in each of the last 25 years:—

Exports of Victorian produce.

Exports of Victorian Produce, 1867 *to* 1891.

Year.	Exports of Articles produced or manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per head of the Population	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79
1882	12,570,788	14 2 7	77·63
1883	13,232,294	14 12 1	81·06
1884	13,155,484	14 2 1	81·96
1885	12,452,245	13 0 3	80·06
1886	9,054,687	9 3 11	76·77
1887	8,502,979	8 7 3	74·91
1888	10,356,633	9 16 4	74·76
1889	9,776,670	8 19 4	76·77
1890	10,291,821	9 4 0	77·58
1891	13,026,426	11 7 2	81·38

Decrease of exports of Victorian products.

122. It should be pointed out that the returns of articles set down as produced or manufactured in Victoria are not always reliable, there being no other evidence as to the origin of such articles than the statements of the shippers, which, it is known, are sometimes made very loosely. It will be seen that, according to the figures, the total value of exports of local productions shows a considerable improvement in 1891 on the exceptionally low values which prevailed in the previous six years. The worst year was 1887, when such value was lower than in any of the previous 20 years, except 1879, and the value of such exports per head was absolutely the lowest in the whole period; but in 1891 the local export trade was higher than in any previous year except 1883 and 1884, although in proportion to population, it was still much lower than in the great majority of years prior to 1886. The proportion of exports of home products to the total exports was higher in 1891 than in any previous year except 1884.

VICTORIA. 1891.

Imports of principal articles at three periods.

123. The value of sixty-six of the principal articles imported in 1891, and in the first year of each of the two previous quinquennia are placed side by side in the following table:—

Imports of Principal Articles, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports.		
		1881.	1886.	1891.
		£	£	£
1	Books	198,288	194,236	234,350
	Stationery	83,455	104,583	84,891
2	Musical Instruments	93,684	127,917	113,748
6	Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials.	68,248	68,563	73,082
9	Cutlery	23,426	29,272	46,312
	Machinery	103,337	166,663	257,957
	Sewing machines	83,224	51,491	70,145
	Tools and utensils	40,165	39,962	58,154
12	Building materials	58,340	160,774	130,638
13	Furniture and upholstery	55,226	93,779	68,163
14	Drugs and chemicals	76,316	104,584	78,130
	Matches and vestas	43,597	48,651	61,478
	Opium	54,820	41,651	32,963
	Paints and colours	51,133	64,611	79,318
15	Carpeting and druggeting	73,035	94,259	88,024
	Woollens and woollen piece goods	663,397	892,868	903,657
16	Silks	263,946	312,728	306,199
17	Cottons	872,691	1,027,674	973,704
	Linen piece goods and manufactures	23,251	42,160	35,967
18	Haberdashery	326,394	420,608	239,236
19	Apparel and slops	279,767	389,814	519,948
	Boots and shoes	105,379	105,828	153,433
	Gloves	89,512	111,086	118,610
	Hats, caps, and bonnets	117,087	122,377	96,779
	Hosiery	105,124	132,195	143,634
20	Bags and sacks (including woolpacks)	208,169	86,638	206,032
21	Butter and cheese	813	6,758	18,107
	Fish	132,569	163,840	139,395
	Meats—fresh, preserved and salted	8,826	17,547	39,500
22	Fruit (including currants and raisins)	186,876	205,533	319,859
	Flour and biscuit	3,536	16,429	16,434
	Grain—wheat	22,928	26,237	55,719
	„ oats	87,888	76,456	28,767
	„ other (including malt and rice)	235,699	135,173	91,313
	Sugar and molasses	1,004,869	853,399	1,051,838
23	Beer, cider, and perry	161,673	260,650	270,491
	Coffee	68,271	50,222	44,130
	Hops	42,332	23,285	13,367
	Spirits	426,864	380,232	466,427
	Tea	942,603	668,472	626,173
	Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	185,815	291,684	304,491
	Wine	131,426	116,606	130,038
24	Hides, skins, and pelts	96,084	129,102	159,478
	Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth.	143,697	167,618	159,419
	Wool	2,887,260	2,331,599	3,372,154
25	Paper (including paper bags)	188,275	250,530	301,908
	Timber	481,925	1,170,539	897,264
	Woodenware	42,274	55,662	43,113
26	Oil of all kinds	203,760	219,691	282,794
28	Coal	313,581	510,768	837,810
29	Earthenware, brownware, and china-ware.	83,013	105,260	98,918

Order.	Articles.	Value of Imports, 1881.	1886.	1891.
		£	£	£
	Glass and glassware	87,721	157,788	117,851
31	Gold (exclusive of specie)	790,243	569,442	716,510
	Specie—gold	40	32,593	325,562
	„ other	113,596	33,392	39,383
	Jewellery	73,075	54,310	40,171
32	Iron and steel (exclusive of railway rails, telegraph wire, &c.)	479,887	748,602	878,509
	Lead—ore, pig, pipe, sheet	13,230	24,048	42,493
	Manufactures of metal	60,482	147,434	180,282
	Tin	54,894	43,503	59,240
	Nails and screws	50,993	45,006	20,927
	Plated ware	22,743	32,404	72,695
33	Live stock	757,276	928,505	1,553,727
35	Fancy goods	59,067	90,958	57,545
	Hardware and ironmongery	116,373	226,204	157,276
	Oilmen's stores	15,234	30,035	35,838
	Total	14,938,722	16,432,485	19,241,468
	All other articles	1,779,799	2,098,090	2,470,140
	Total Imports	16,718,521	18,530,575	21,711,608

Eleven chief articles of import, 1891.

124. Of all the articles named in the table, the most important, according to the values in 1891, are wool—including that brought overland from New South Wales—live stock, sugar, gold, cottons, woollens, timber, iron and steel, coal, tea, and apparel and slops, in the order named, the values of which varied in 1891 from 3,372,000*l.* for wool, to 516,000*l.* for apparel and slops. The aggregate value of these eleven items amounted in 1891 to close on 12,657,000*l.*, or to more than half the total value of all the articles imported. It may be mentioned that the value in 1881 of all these articles was 9,473,500*l.*, in 1886 10,124,000*l.*, and in 1890 12,904,000*l.*, so that the value in 1891, although somewhat lower than in 1890, was much higher than in the earlier years named.

Imports of three periods compared.

125. The total imports show an increased value in 1891, as compared with 1886, of over three millions, and as compared with 1881, of five millions; while the imports of the articles named in the table have increased by nearly three millions, and over four and a quarter millions respectively. More than half the items show considerable increase at the last period as compared with either of the former periods, and of these the more important are books, cutlery, machinery, tools and utensils, apparel and slops, boots and shoes, preserved meats, fruit, wheat, spirits, tobacco, hides, wool, paper, oil, coal, gold, iron and steel, lead, plated ware, metal manufactures, and live stock. The imports of wool show an increase as compared with 1886 of 1,040,000*l.*, live stock of 625,000*l.*, gold coin and bullion of 440,000*l.*, coal of 327,000*l.*, iron and apparel and slops of 130,000*l.* each, and fruit of 114,000*l.* Several of the items of imports show decrease at the last period as compared with either of the former ones, the chief being haberdashery, grain other than wheat (including oats and hops).

Exports of principal articles at three periods.

126. The exports of fifty of the principal articles are in like manner given for the same three years:—

Exports of Principal Articles, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

Order.	Articles.	Value of Exports.		
		1881.	1886.	1891.
		£	£	£
1	Books	80,324	73,295	70,172
	Stationery	39,396	34,958	42,337
9	Machinery	122,464	67,862	162,901
15	Woollens and woollen piece goods	92,492	79,751	76,209
16	Silks	24,830	31,867	48,395
17	Cottons	92,040	68,930	98,986
18	Haberdashery	49,454	77,815	45,702
19	Apparel and slops	278,756	218,012	191,762
	Boots and shoes	93,012	49,260	47,197
20	Bags and sacks	50,280	86,638	34,724
21	Butter and cheese	100,987	91,322	234,265
	Meats, fresh and preserved	113,426	89,126	22,498
	„ salted (including hams and bacon).	29,117	19,862	6,504
22	Fruits (including currants and raisins)	43,702	76,239	69,113
	Flour and biscuit	241,386	392,521	488,347
	Grain—wheat	689,254	166,916	909,636
	„ oats	12,964	6,787	6,819
	„ other (including malt and rice)	104,451	35,093	43,212
	Onions	20,364	34,696	32,936
	Potatoes	57,091	120,532	52,685
	Sugar and molasses	277,562	144,631	175,495
23	Coffee	32,480	23,959	5,548
	Spirits	110,012	85,324	96,951
	Tea	292,606	322,299	338,813
	Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	154,545	111,729	103,776
	Wine	42,964	56,251	69,785
24	Bones and bone dust	13,774	10,174	12,731
	Candles	11,690	16,460	7,910
	Horns and hoofs	1,118	1,005	3,805
	Hides	6,239	9,581	19,905
	Skins and pelts	108,664	98,763	206,729
	Leather, leatherware, and leathern cloth	329,006	281,477	232,130
	Soap	12,496	13,745	28,795
	Tallow	247,372	120,900	163,412
	Wool	5,450,066	4,999,662	7,165,092
25	Bark	21,163	30,782	84,132
	Hay, straw and chaff	81,196	174,139	163,653
	Timber	37,774	21,336	40,777
26	Oil of all kinds	68,192	28,571	32,218
31	Gold (exclusive of specie)	1,646,930	336,874	423,709
	Specie—gold	3,090,999	1,610,829	2,217,734
	„ silver	480	6,623	20,950
32	Antimony ore, regulus, &c.	14,284	35	1,642
	Copper ore, regulus, &c.	15,975	12,104	2,984
	Iron, &c.	122,779	47,041	77,329
	Manufactures of metals	45,840	37,127	51,571
	Tin, tin ore, black sand	2,518	4,080	2,413
33	Live stock	459,254	393,516	457,394
35	Hardware and ironmongery	70,739	32,734	49,486
	Travellers' samples	52,776	71,049	81,797
	Total	15,157,283	10,924,282	15,023,076
	All other articles	1,094,820	871,039	983,667
	Total Exports	16,252,103	11,795,321	16,006,743

127. It appears from this table that the chief articles of Victorian export are wool, of which the value in 1891 was 7,165,000*l.*, and gold (inclusive of specie), valued at 2,641,400*l.*, which two articles alone contributed 61 per cent. to the total value of exports of all articles; next in order in 1891 were breadstuffs, 1,398,000*l.*, and live stock, 457,000*l.*; then tea, butter and cheese, leather, hides and skins, apparel and slops, sugar, and hay and chaff, in the order named—the values of which varied in 1891 between 339,000*l.* and 164,000*l.* It will be noticed, however, that of these sugar (excepting so far as the process of refining is concerned) and tea are not produced in Victoria, but are merely re-exports. The value of the eleven articles just named amounted in 1891 to 13,224,664*l.*, which leaves the balance of 2,782,079*l.* distributed over all the other heads.

Eleven chief articles of export, 1891.

128. The value of the total exports in 1891 shows a considerable improvement since 1886, although it is lower than the value in 1881 by a quarter of a million. As against the first period, about one-third of the articles specified show decrease, the most important being gold, grain (other than wheat), sugar, spirits, tobacco, meats, candles, tallow, leather, woollens, apparel and slops, bags and sacks, boots and shoes, iron, &c., and antimony ore. The falling-off under some of these articles, however, such as sugar, spirits, and tobacco, is merely indicative of a decline in the re-export trade. On the other hand there was more or less increase, as compared with both the previous periods, in the exports of fully two-fifths of the articles named in the table—the more important of which were butter and cheese, wheat and flour, tea, wine, horns and hoofs, hides, skins and pelts, soap, wool, and bark. The exports of gold fell off by nearly 2,100,000*l.* as compared with 1881, but increased by 700,000*l.* as compared with 1886; those of breadstuffs were higher by nearly 470,000*l.* than in 1881, and by nearly 840,000*l.* than in 1886; whilst those of wool were higher by about 1,700,000*l.*, and by nearly 2,200,000*l.* respectively. Owing to the stimulation afforded by Government bonuses, the export of butter considerably more than doubled that recorded for the previous period.

Exports of three periods compared.

129. The number of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports in 1891 was larger by 158 than in 1890, smaller by 650 than in 1889, and by 263 than in 1888, but larger than in any other former years; the tonnage in 1891 was more by 351,768 than in 1890, about 100,000 more than 1889, and considerably larger than in any other year. The following table contains a statement of the number, tonnage, and crews of vessels inwards and outwards in three successive periods with intervals of ten years, also during each of the last five years:—

Vessels inwards and outwards

Vessels Entered and Cleared, 1870 *to* 1891.

Year.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels Cleared.			Total Entered and Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.	Men.	No.	Tons.
1870 -	2,093	663,764	32,838	2,187	681,098	33,836	4,280	1,344,862
1880 -	2,076	1,078,885	51,585	2,115	1,101,014	52,153	4,191	2,179,899
1887 -	2,435	1,920,180	80,918	2,418	1,938,063	79,888	4,853	3,858,243
1888 -	2,724	2,182,071	85,879	2,630	2,125,812	84,233	5,354	4,307,883
1889 -	2,855	2,270,827	89,187	2,886	2,328,351	89,489	5,741	4,599,178
1890 -	2,474	2,178,551	85,818	2,459	2,184,790	85,163	4,933	4,363,341
1891 -	2,531	2,338,864	92,861	2,560	2,376,245	93.179	5,091	4,715,109

Farm holdings and number of cultivators.

130. The total number of farm holdings returned in 1891–92 was 35,945 of which 34,849 were in shires and 1,096 in cities, towns, or boroughs. The land under cultivation was 2,687,575 acres, or 34,807 acres more than in the previous year.

Land under principal crops.

131. The principal crops grown are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, hay, and green forage. The following table shows the extent of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons:—

Land under Principal Crops, 1891 *and* 1892.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1891 - - -	1,145,163	221,048	87,751	53,818	413,052	245,332
1892 - - -	1,332,683	190,157	45,021	57,334	369,498	184,184
Increase -	187,520	—	—	3,516	—	—
Decrease -	—	30,891	42,730	—	43,554	61,148

Produce of principal crops.

132. The following is a statement of the gross produce of these crops (except green forage, of which no account is kept), in the same two years:—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1891 *and* 1892.

Year ended March—	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1891 - - -	12,751,295	4,919,325	1,571,599	204,155	567,779
1892 - - -	13,679,268	4,455,551	844,198	200,523	514,406
Increase -	927,973	—	—	—	—
Decrease -	—	463,774	727,401	3,632	53,373

133. The average produce per acre of these crops was as follows in the last 10 years :— Average per acre of principal crops.

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1883 to 1892.

Year ended March—	Average Produce per Acre of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1883 - - -	9·03	26·17	17·35	3·78	1·06
1884 - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	4·01	1·43
1885 - - -	9·52	23·40	17·38	4·16	1·09
1886 - - -	8·99	21·72	17·58	3·83	1·05
1887 - - -	11·49	22·91	22·36	3·41	1·09
1888 - - -	10·81	22·92	23·34	4·11	1·41
1889 - - -	7·10	14·20	13·55	3·04	0·75
1890 - - -	9·75	23·87	20·18	3·33	1·48
1891 - - -	11·13	22·25	17·91	3·79	1·37
1892 - - -	10·26	23·43	18·75	3·50	1·39
Mean - -	10·22	22·59	19·12	3·70	1·21

134. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the recent census, and these are compared in the following table with the numbers for March 1892, brought on since the census by means of estimates furnished by the municipal authorities :— Live stock, 1891 and 1892.

Live Stock, 1891 and 1892.

Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
5th April 1891 (enumerated).	436,459	395,091	1,387,887	1,782,978	12,692,843	282,457
March 1892 (estimated).	440,696	405,973	1,406,131	1,812,104	12,928,148	286,780
Increase -	4,237	10,882	18,244	29,126	235,305	4,323

135. Besides the live stock returned, as shown in the table, 44,482 goats, 139 asses, and 224 mules were enumerated at the census of 1891. Goats, asses, and mules.

136. There are now in Victoria 5 horses, 21 head of cattle, 147 sheep, and 3 pigs, or taking the different kinds together, 176 head of stock of these descriptions, large and small, to the square mile. Stock per square mile.

VICTORIA. 1891.

Value of agricultural and pastoral produce.

137. The estimated gross values of agricultural and pastoral produce for the year 1891–92 were as follows:—

Gross Value of Agricultural and Pastoral Produce, 1891–92.

	£
Agricultural produce - -	7,752,855
Pastoral „ - - -	11,380,236
Total - -	19,133,091

Manufactories, works, &c. in Victoria.

138. The following is the number of manufactories, works, &c. in Victoria for the year 1892, together with the hands employed and value of lands, buildings, machinery, and plant:—

Manufactories, Works &c., 1892.*

Number of establishments - - -	3,141
Hands employed - - -	52,225
Value of lands, buildings, machinery, and plant - - - - -	16,472,859*l.*

Gold raised, 1890 and 1891.

139. The gold raised in Victoria in 1891 was 576,400 ozs., which is less than the quantity obtained in 1890 by 12,161 ozs., representing, at 4*l.* per oz., a decreased value of 48,644*l.* The following are the figures for the two years:—

Quantity and Value of Gold raised in 1890 *and* 1891.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.	
	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at 4*l.* per oz.
	oz.	£
1890 - - -	588,561	2,354,244
1891 - - -	576,400	2,305,600
Decrease - -	12,161	48,644

Gold raised, 1851 to 1891.

140. Carrying on to the end of 1891 the calculations given in previous years, the quantity of gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery, about the middle of 1851, is estimated at 57,415,759 ozs. which at 4*l.* per oz. would give a total value of 229,663,036*l.*

University.

141. The Melbourne University, which has been established since 1855, receives an endowment or subsidy from the State of 16,500*l.* per annum. In the Act of Incorporation it is provided that no religious test shall be administered to anyone to entitle him to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the institution.

* For a complete list of manufactories, *see* Digest for 1889, page 70.

The Council are empowered to grant, in any faculty except divinity, any degree, diploma, certificate, or license which can be conferred in any University in the British dominions. A Chair of Music has also been established in connexion with the University, for the endowment of which the Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C., contributed the sum of 20,000*l.* On the 22nd March 1880, the University was thrown open to females, and they can now be admitted to all its corporate privileges. Affiliated to the University are three colleges in connexion with the Church of England, the Presbyterian, and the Wesleyan Church respectively, and named respectively Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's; Ormond College is named after the late Hon. Francis Ormond, M.L.C. who contributed 42,000*l.* in his lifetime, and at his death bequeathed a further sum of 40,000*l.* towards its erection and endowment. The University Hall, built at a cost of about 40,000*l.*, is called the "Wilson Hall," after Sir Samuel Wilson, now a member of the British House of Commons, who contributed the greater portion of the funds for its erection. Since the opening of the University 3,062 students matriculated, and 1,681 degrees were granted, of which 1,337 were direct, and 344 *ad eundem*. The students who matriculated in 1890 numbered 154, and the graduates in the same year numbered 109.

State education.

142. The State education system of Victoria, the basis of which is that secular instruction shall be provided, without payment, for children whose parents may be willing to accept it, but that whether accepted or not, satisfactory evidence must be produced that all children up to the age of 13 are educated up to a given standard, has been most successful in its operation; and for securing the object sought to be obtained, it is believed, compares favourably with that of any other country in the world. In 1872, just before the present system came into operation, the number of children returned as on the rolls of State schools was 136,055, whilst in 1891, after the system had been in force for 18 years, the number had increased to 253,469, or by 81 per cent., the increase of children at the school age in the population during the same period having been only about 20 per cent Besides the ordinary course of instruction, which is quite elementary, free instruction is also given to a large number of scholars in drill, gymnastics, singing, and drawing; the Kindergarten system of instruction for young children has been introduced; and lectures in cookery and agriculture are also given in some of the principal schools, whilst extra subjects are taught on payment of a small charge.

Exhibitions and scholarships.

143. The higher education for State school scholars is provided for by a certain number of scholarships, of the annual value of 10*l.*, tenable for three years, which are annually awarded to the most clever and industrious pupils of State schools under 15 years of age, who are selected by competitive examination to enable them to pursue advanced studies at the principal grammar schools, schools of mines, agricultural colleges, or other schools approved of by the Minister. Moreover, for the purpose of enabling the most intelligent of these scholars to finish their education at the University,

11 exhibitions, each of the yearly value of 40*l.*, tenable for four years, are annually awarded for competition amongst the holders of the scholarships.

Private schools.

144. Besides the State schools, which are attended by five sixths of the children under instruction in the Colony, there were in 1892, 759 private schools attended by 37,203 scholars. Some of these private schools are attached to religious denominations, as many as 208, with 21,799 scholars, being connected with the Roman Catholic Church. Six are called colleges or grammar schools, two of which are connected with the Church of England, two with the Roman Catholic, one with the Presbyterian, and one with the Wesleyan Church. In these, as well as in some of the other private schools, a very high class of education, quite equal to that obtained in the best public schools in England, is given.

Wages.

145. The following table contains a statement of the average rates of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1891. It has been compiled from statements obtained from the best authorities, and is believed to be fairly representative of a state of affairs which must always be subject to some fluctuations. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artisans and general labourers is eight hours:—

Wages in Melbourne.

RETURN of the Rates of Wages paid in Melbourne during the Year 1891.

	Description of Labour.		Rate.
	1.—DOMESTIC SERVANTS.		
Males	Coachmen, footmen, grooms, gardeners	per week, with board and lodging	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Males	Butlers	" "	20*s.* to 40*s.*
Females	Cooks	per annum, "	40*l.* to 75*l.*
Females	Laundresses	" "	40*l.* to 52*l.*
Females	Housemaids	" "	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Nursemaids	" "	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	General servants	" "	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Girls	per week, "	8*s.* to 10*s.*
	2.—HOTEL SERVANTS.		
Males	Barmen	per week, with board and lodging	30*s.* to 45*s.*
Males	Waiters	" "	25*s.* to 40*s.*
Males	Boots	" "	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Males	Ostlers	" "	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Males	Cooks	" "	20*s.* to 65*s.*
Females	Barmaids	" "	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Females	Waitresses	" "	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Females	Housemaids	per annum "	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Females	Cooks	" "	50*l.* to 100*l.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
3.—FARM SERVANTS.			
Males	Ploughmen	per week, and found	20*s.* to 25*s.*
	Farm labourers	„ „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Milkmen for dairies	„ „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Cheesemakers	„ „	25*s.* to 40*s.*
	Reapers	per acre, „	10*s.* to 15*s.*
	Mowers	„ „	4*s.* to 6*s.*
	Threshers	per bushel, „	5*d.* to 7*d.*
	Cooks	per annum, „	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Females	Dairy milkmaids	„ with board and lodging	30*l.* to 35*l.*
	Cooks	„ „	30*l.* to 35*l.*
	General servants	„ „	30*l.* to 35*l.*
Married couples (generally useful)		„ „	60*l.* to 80*l.*
Hop-pickers		per bushel	3½*d.* to 4½*d.*
Maize-pickers		per bag	6*d.*
4.—STATION SERVANTS.			
Males	Boundary riders	per annum with rations	40*l.* to 60*l.*
	Shepherds	„ „	36*l.* to 52*l.*
	Stockmen	„ „	50*l.* to 75*l.*
	Hutkeepers	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
	Cooks	„ „	60*l.* to 70*l.*
	Labourers	per week, „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
	Drovers	„ „	25*s.* to 40*s.*
	Sheepwashers	„ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
	Shearers	per 100 sheep shorn, with rations	15*s.* to 16*s.*
Females	Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	30*l.* to 50*l.*
	General servants	„ „	30*l.* to 45*l.*
Married couples		„ with rations	70*l.* to 90*l.*
5.—WORKERS IN BOOKS, &c.			
Printers—Compositors		per 1,000, without board and lodging	1*s.* 2*d.*
„ Machinists		per week, „	3*l.* to 4*l.*
Lithographers		„ „	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Binders		„ „	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Paper rulers		„ „	3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Sewers and folders (females)		„ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
6.—IN WATCHES, JEWELLERY, AND PRECIOUS METALS.			
Watchmakers		per week, without board and lodging	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Manufacturing jewellers		„ „	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Enamellers		„ „	3*l.* to 4*l.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
7.—IN METALS OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER.			
Blacksmiths	per day, without board and lodging		10*s.* to 12*s.*
Die sinkers	per week,	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Engravers	„	„	1*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.*
Farriers—Firemen	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ Floormen	„	„	30*s.* to 50*s.*
Hammermen	per day,	„	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Fitters	„	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*
Turners	„	„	9*s.* to 13*s.*
Boilermakers and platers	„	„	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Riveters	„	„	10*s.* to 11*s.*
Lamp makers	per week,	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pattern makers	per day,	„	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Moulders	„	„	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Brassfinishers, coppersmiths	„	„	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Tinsmiths	per week,	„	2*l.* 8*s.* to 2*l.* 14*s.*
Japanners	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Ironworkers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Galvanizers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Plumbers, gasfitters	„	„	3*l.*
8.—IN CARRIAGES AND HARNESS.			
Smiths	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Bodymakers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Wheelers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Painters	per day,	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*
Trimmers	per week,	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Vycemen	„	„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Collar-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 5*l.*
Harness-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Saddler-makers	„	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Saddle-tree makers	„	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
Whip-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
9.—SHIPS AND BOATS.			
Sailors—Sailing vessels	per month, and found		3*l.* 10*l.* to 5*l.*
„ Steamships	„	„	7*l.*
Ship carpenters, shipwrights	per day, without board and lodging		13*s.*
Stevedores' men, lumpers	per hour,	„	1*s.* 3*d.*
10.—IN HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.			
Masons	per day, without board and lodging		10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„	„	10*s.*
Brioklayers	„	„	10*s.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
Slaters	per day, without board and lodging		10*s.* to 12*s.*
Carpenters	„	„	10*s.*
Labourers	„	„	7*s.* to 8*s*
Painters and glaziers	„	„	7*s.* to 9*s.*
11.—IN FURNITURE &c.			
Cabinetmakers	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Carvers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Turners	per day,	„	8*s.* to 10*s.*
Upholsterers	per week,	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 3*s.*
Polishers	„	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Coopers	per day,	„	9*s.* to 10*s.*
12.—WORKERS IN DRESS.			
Tailors	per hour, without board and lodging		10*d.* to 1*s.*
„	per week	„	2*l.* 15*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
„ in factories	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Mantlemakers	„	„	13*s.* to 30*s.*
Milliners, first class	„	„	3*l.* to 4*l.*
„ second class	„	„	15*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
Corsetmakers	„	„	15*s.* to 35*s.*
Dressmakers	„	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Needlewomen	„	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Bootmakers	riveting children's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		5*d.*
„	machine sewing children's and boys' boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		8*d.* to 9*d.*
„	riveting boys' boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		9*d.*
„	riveting women's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
„	machine sewing women's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* 1*d.*
„	riveting men's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*
„	machine sewing men's boots, per pair, without board and lodging.		1*s.* 5*d.*
„	making wellingtons to order, without board and lodging.		10*s.*
„	making elastics to order, without board and lodging.		6*s.* to 8*s.*
„ machinists	per week, without board and lodging		15*s.* to 25*s.*
Hatters—Gossamer trade—			
„ Bodymakers—silk hats	per dozen	„	10*s.* to 22*s.*
„ Finishers	„	„	12*s.* to 24*s.*
„ Shapers	„	„	4*s.* to 12*s.*
„ Crown sewers	„	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*
„ Trimmers	„	„	6*s.* to 9*s.*
„ Felt hat trade—			
„ Bodymakers	per week, without board and lodging		3*l.* 5*s.*
„ Blockers	„	„	3*l.*
„ Finishers	„	„	3*l.*
„ Shapers	„	„	3*l.*
„ Binders (females)	„	„	24*s.*
„ Trimmers „	„	„	20*s.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
Clothing Factories—Tailoresses	per week,	without board and lodging	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Pressers	„	„	1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*
Shirtmakers	„	„	12*s.* to 25*s.*
Machinists	„	„	15*s.* to 30*s.*
Drapers' assistants, carpet salesmen	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* 10*s.*
13.—IN FOOD.			
Bakers—Foremen	per week,	without board and lodging	3*l.*
„ Second hands	„	„	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Butchers—Shopmen	„	„	30*s.* to 3*l.*
„ Slaughtermen	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
„ Boys	„	with board	15*s.* to 30*s.*
„ Small-goods men	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Maltsters	per week		2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*
14.—IN ANIMAL MATTERS.			
Brushmakers	per week,	without board and lodging	2*l.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*
Curriers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tanners	„	„	38*s.* to 40*s.*
Beamsmen	„	„	38*s.* to 45*s.*
Shedsmen	„	„	38*s.* to 50*s.*
Fellmongers	„	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Portmanteau—trunk makers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*
15.—IN VEGETABLE MATTERS.			
Basket-makers	per week,	without board and lodging	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Broom-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
Cigar-makers	„	„	2*l.* to 4*l.*
Cigarette-makers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Tobacco-workers	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Cork-cutters	„	„	2*l.* to 3*l.*
16.—IN STONE, CLAY, &c.			
Brickmakers	per 1,000,	without board and lodging	14*s.* to 15*s.*
Brickmakers' labourers	per day	„	6*s.* to 7*s.*
Glassblowers	per week	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.*
Navvies	per day,	„	6*s.* 6*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Potters	per hour,	„	10½*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Quarrymen	per day,	„	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Labourers	„	„	6*s.* to 8*s.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard,	„	2*s.* to 4*s.*
Asphalters	per day,	„	8*s.* to 9*s.*

Description of Labour.			Rate.
17.—IN MINES.			
General managers	per week, without board and lodging		2*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.*
Legal „	„	„	10*s.* to 7*l.*
Mining „	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.*
Engineers	„	„	2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*
Engine-drivers	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Pitmen	„	„	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Blacksmiths	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 10*s.*
Carpenters	„	„	1*l.* 16*s.* to 3*l.* 6*s.*
Foremen of shift	„	„	2*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.*
Miners	„	„	2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.*
Surfacemen (labourers)		„	1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*
Boys			15*s.* to 1*l.* 15*s.*
Chinese		„	1*l.* to 1*l.* 16*s.*

146. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows for 1881, 1886, and 1891. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, imported wines, coal, &c. is naturally somewhat higher, and that of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally somewhat lower, than in Melbourne :— Prices.

Prices in Melbourne, 1881, 1886, *and* 1891.

Articles.	1881.	1886.	1891.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.			
Wheat per bushel	4*s.* 1*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 10*d.* to 5*s.* 5*d.*	3*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 9*d.*
Barley—			
Malting „	2*s.* 2*d.* to 4*s.* 4*d.*	2*s.* 7*d.* to 4*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 3*d.*
Cape „			2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*
Oats „	2*s.* to 3*s.* 7*d.*	2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*
Maize	3*s.* 9*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*	4*s.* 3*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.*	3*s.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*
Bran „	8½*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Hay per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*	3*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Flour, first quality „	9*l.* to 11*l.* 15*s.*	8*l.* to 11*l.* 15*s*	8*l.* to 10*l.* 10*s.*
Bread per 4 lb. loaf	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*	4½*d.* to 6*d.*
GRAZING PRODUCE.			
Horses—			
Draught each	15*l.* to 46*l.*	23*l.* to 49*l.*	12*l.* to 40*l.*
Saddle and harness „	8*l.* to 65*l.*	10*l.* to 25*l.*	8*l.* to 20*l.*
Cattle—			
Fat	3*l.* 10*s.* to 14*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*	5*l.* to 19*l.*	5*l.* to 14*l.*
Milch cows „	4*l.* 15*s.* to 10*l.*	6*l.* to 15*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 15*l.*
Sheep, fat „	3*s.* 6*d.* to 21*s.*	5*s.* 6*d.* to 22*s.*	6*s.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*
Lambs, fat	3*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*

Articles.		1881.	1886.	1891.
GRAZING PRODUCE—*cont.*				
Butchers' meat— Beef, retail	per lb.	1½*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 10*d.*	3*d.* to 9*d.*
Mutton „	„	1½*d.* to 4*d.*	1½*d.* to 5*d.*	2*d.* to 6*d.*
Veal „	„	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*	5*d.* to 8*d.*
Pork „	„	6*d.* to 8*d.*	6*d.* to 9*d.*	7*d.* to 10*d.*
Lamb „	per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
DAIRY PRODUCE.				
Butter, retail	per lb.	6*d.* to 2*s.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.*
Cheese „	„	5*d.* to 1*s.*	5*d.* to 1*s.*	7*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Milk	per quart	4*d.* to 6*d.*	5*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 5*d.*
FARM-YARD PRODUCE.				
Geese	per couple	6*s.* to 10*s.*	7*s.* to 12*s.*	4*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.*
Ducks	„	4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	5*s.* to 8*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*
Fowls	„	4*s.* to 7*s.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*	3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*
Rabbits	„	6*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	9*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Pigeons	„	2*s.* to 3*s.*	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Turkeys	each	4*s.* to 15*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*	5*s.* to 15*s.*
Sucking pigs	„	10*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.*	5*s.* to 15*s.*
Bacon	per lb.	6*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.*
Ham	„	8*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*	10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	10*d.* to 2*s.* 9*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*	10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
GARDEN PRODUCE.				
Potatoes— Wholesale	per ton	2*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*	2*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*
Retail	per wt.	3*s.* to 8*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*
Onions, dried	„	2*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*	3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.*
Carrots	per dozen bunches	4*d.* to 8*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Turnips	„	2*d* to 1*s.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Radishes	„	3*d.* to 6*d.*	4*d.* to 6*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Cabbages	per doz.	3*d.* to 5*s.*	6*d.* to 4*s.*	2*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Cauliflowers	„	4*d.* to 3*s.*	1*s.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* to 5*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.*	4*d.* to 1*s.*	1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
Green peas	per lb.	1*d.* to 4*d.*	1*d.* to 3*d.*	1½*d.* to 5*d.*
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea (duty paid)	per lb.	7*d.* to 2*s.* 5½*d.*	6*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.*	5¾*d.* to 2*s.*
Coffee „	„	7½*d.* to 11½*d.*	5½*d.* to 8*d.*	8*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.*
Sugar „	per ton	30*l.* 10*s.* to 38*l.*	18*l.* 10*s.* to 29*l.*	13*l.* 5*s.* to 27*l.* 5*s.*
Rice „	„	13*l.* 10*s.* to 29*l.*	16*l.* to 26*l.*	14*l.* to 22*l.*

Articles.		1881.	1886.	1891.
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—*cont.*				
Tobacco (in bond) :—				
Imported mftd. -	per lb,	8½*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*	1*s.* to 3*s.* 9*d.*	11*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*
Colonial „ -	„			2*s.* 3*d.* to 4*s.*
Soap, colonial - -	per ton	17*l.* to 29*l.*	12*l.* to 28*l.*	11*l.* to 28*l.*
Candles, sperm - -	per lb.	7*d.* to 10½*d.*	6*d.* to 9½*d.*	5*d.* to 8¼*d.*
Salt - - -	per ton	3*l.* 5*s.* to 6*l.* 5*s.*	2*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*	2*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*
Coals - - -	„	22*s.* to 40*s.*	27*s.* to 38*s.*	20*s.* to 26*s.*
Firewood - -	„	8*s.* to 12*s.*	10*s.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*	9*s.* 3*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*
WINES, SPIRITS, *&c.*				
Ale (duty paid) -	per hhd.	7*l.* to 9*l.*	5*l.* 10*s.* to 8*l.*	5*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.*
„ „ - -	qts. per doz.	8*s.* to 13*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* 3*d.* to 11*s.*	7*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*
Stout „ - -	per hhd.	7*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*	7*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*	5*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*
„ „ - -	qts. per doz.	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 3*d.*	8*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy, in bulk (in bond)	per gall.	6*s.* to 15*s.*	5*s.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*	4*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*
Rum „ „	„	2*s.* 2*d.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*	2*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*	2*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.*
Whisky „ „	„	3*s.* 10*d.* to 15*s.*	3*s.* 3*d.* to 16*s.*	2*s.* 9*d.* to 17*s.*
Port wine (in bond) -	per pipe	21*l.* to 120*l.*	21*l.* to 120*l.*	23*l.* to 120*l.*
Sherry (in bond) -	per butt	20*l.* to 125*l.*	21*l.* to 135*l.*	25*l.* to 140*l.*
Claret, &c. (in bond) -	per doz.	13*s.* 6*d.* to 100*s.*	15*s.* to 87*s.* 6*d.*	16*s.* to 85*s.*
Champagne (in bond) -	„	25*s.* to 91*s.*	35*s.* to 95*s.*	35*s.* to 105*s.*

147. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned, in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1891–92." Victorian Year Book.

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

* This is an official publication by the Government Statist, published annually, and may be obtained from the Government printer, Melbourne, or the Agent General of Victoria, 15, Victoria Street, Westminster.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 56.

ZULULAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 14.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1893.

[C.—6857.-6.]

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	,,
23	Grenada	,,
24	Straits Settlements	,,
25	British Guiana	,,
26	St. Helena	,,
27	Mauritius	,,
28	Gambia	,,
29	Hong Kong	,,
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	,,
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	,,
34	Newfoundland	,,
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	,,
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891
42	Barbados	,,
43	Turks Islands	,,
44	Bahamas	,,
45	Fiji	1890
46	Seychelles	1891
47	British Bechuanaland	1890–92
48	Malta	1890 and 1891
49	Gibraltar	1891
50	Falkland Islands	,,
51	Leeward Islands	,,
52	Grenada	,,
53	St. Lucia	,,
54	Labuan	,,
55	British Guiana	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 56.

ZULULAND.

[For Report for 1890 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) 14.]

Sir C. B. H. MITCHELL to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Durban, Natal, August 19, 1892.

IN compliance with Colonial Regulations 268–271, I have the honour to place before your Lordship, in duplicate, the Blue Book of Zululand for the year 1891, together with a copy of the Resident Commissioner's report thereon, exhibiting the general condition and prospects of the territory under the several heads specified in the Returns.

I regret not having been able to forward this Blue Book within the time prescribed by the regulations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. B. H. MITCHELL.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT by the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER to accompany the BLUE BOOK of ZULULAND for 1891.

Taxes, Duties and other sources of Revenue.

There has been no alteration under this head during the year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
The balance to the credit of the territory on the 1st January 1891, was - - -				10,045	13	8
The actual revenue during the year was - - -				40,080	3	7
Other receipts (not actual revenue)						
Advances repaid - -	542	17	0			
Deposits recovered - -	38	13	9			
Remittances received by Crown Agents - - -	22,000	0	0			
Investments realised by Crown Agents - - -	1,500	0	0	24,081	10	9
Carried Forward -				£74,207	8	0

I 73530. Wt. 10230.

ZULULAND. 1891.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought Forward -				74,207	8	0
The actual expenditure during the year amounted to - -	36,118	9	1			
Other payments (not actual expenditure) Advances -	594	0	0			
Deposits - - -	38	13	9			
Remittances to Crown Agents -	12,000	0	0			
Investments - - -	21,000	0	0	69,751	2	10
Actual cash balance on 31st December 1891 - -				4,456	5	2

The Revenue and Expenditure of 1890 *was as follows*:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance 1st January - -	8,175	1	2			
Revenue during the year -	41,674	6				
Other receipts, not actual revenue - - -	1,464	0	0	51,313	7	7
Expenditure during year -	29,732	16	11			
Other payments, not actual Expenditure - - -	11,534	17	0	41,267	13	11
Balance 31st December 1890 -				10,045	13	8

It will thus be seen that there was a decrease of Revenue in 1891 of 1,594*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* as compared with the previous year. The receipts during 1890, however, included the extraordinary item of 2,000*l.*, which represented the proceeds of certain "Fine" cattle paid by the Chief Somkele. The expenditure of 1891 was 6,384*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* in excess of that of 1890, the increase being due chiefly to increased establishments and extraordinary expenditure of 3,797*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, including payment of 2,519*l.* to certain traders and others as compensation for losses during disturbances, expenses of Boundary Commission, further expenditure connected with the Court of Special Commissioners, &c.

The comparative return of revenue and expenditure during 1890 and 1891 cannot be filled in in detail, in accordance with the form prescribed; the classification of revenue and expenditure of 1891 having been altered from that of 1890. The total revenue of 1891 exceeded the estimate by 352*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* The amount received under the head of Revenue "Duties, Taxes, Licenses" largely exceeded the estimate. Under this head the Hut Tax collected during the year was over 1,700*l.* in excess of the estimate, the amount actually received being 31,366*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.*, and the receipts

under "Fines and forfeitures" were over 1,200*l.* more than the estimate. The excess is mainly attributable, in the first case, to collection of arrear Hut tax in U'Bombo District, and, in the second, to fines in respect of faction fights. Under the heads of Revenue, "Fees of Court," and "Miscellaneous" the estimates were also exceeded, whilst "Post and Telegraph" fees and "Land Revenue" and "Proceeds of Land Sales" were over estimated.

The total expenditure during the year was within the estimate.

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets over liabilities is shown to be 24,662*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* It will be seen that 19,500*l.* has been invested in 1891.

Debt.

There is no public debt.

Military Expenditure.

The expenditure in connection with Her Majesty's troops stationed in Zululand is detailed in the Natal Blue Book, the troops in Natal and Zululand forming one command. The cost of the Zululand native police amounted to 9,830*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* being 1,805*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* less than the estimate, and 226*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* less than the expenditure on the service during 1890.

Public Works.

The chief public works undertaken during the year were the erection of a new residency at Eshowe, which was commenced and completed; additions to Eshowe Gaol, including hospital; the erection of barracks for the Zululand police; and a court-room and offices for the chief magistrate and staff—the three last-named buildings are still under construction; a new road from Etshanini at Mkuzi Poort up to the seat of magistracy of U'Bombo district was completed, and a new road from Eshowe to Bonds Drift (Lower Tugela), which when finished will be some miles shorter than the present road, was commenced during the year.

Legislation.

The following proclamations were promulgated during the year, viz.:—

No. I. Amending tariff as to customs, duties and charges, annexed to Proclamation No. I., 1888.

No. II. Amending section 58 of Proclamation No. II., 1887, which prohibits the disposal of liquors to natives.

No. III. Regulating the sale and disposal of intoxicating liquors to Indians and certain coloured persons.

No. IV. Proclaiming that certain Natal one penny Natal Revenue stamps over-printed "Zululand" can be used as postage stamps.

ZULULAND. 1891.

No. V. Regulating sale and disposal of intoxicating liquors to Indians and certain coloured persons, and amending law as respects the supplying of spirituous liquors to natives.

No. VI. Proclaiming approved estimates for the year 1892.

No. VII. Proclaiming rules and regulations for sale of erven in the township of Eshowe.

Civil Establishment.

There was but little alteration in the Civil Establishment of Zululand in 1891. His Honour the Resident Commissioner and chief magistrate, M. Osborn, C.M.G., was granted six months', afterwards extended to nine months', leave of absence, dating from December 1890. During that period the duties of the office were discharged by Colonel Cardew.

A clerk of works and Superintendent of Roads Department was established.

A second district surgeon for Zululand was appointed and he is stationed at Melmoth, the centre of the only district in Zululand in which there are white settlers.

Pensions.

There are no Government pensioners, but stipends are paid to certain Native Chiefs during good behaviour. The only alteration in the amounts so paid was the increase in the stipend of Chief Sibebu from 240*l.* to 300*l.* per annum.

Population.

There exist no means of accurately ascertaining the Native population of Zululand; the figures given in the return (which are the same as those furnished for the census return of the British Empire for 1891) are merely approximate. The figures are based on the Hut Tax paid during the year, it being calculated that each hut contains $3\frac{11}{36}$ souls.

The total estimated population as shown is:—

Whites.

Males.	Females.	Total.
384	264	548

Natives

Males.	Females.	Total.
61,646	83,142	144,788

being an estimated increase in the white population of 45 and increase in the native population of 8,393 persons.

There is no register kept of vital statistics in respect of the native population. In the white population there were 22 births and 7 deaths during the year.

Criminal Statistics.

Though the number of offences reported to, and convictions before, the courts of the Resident Magistrates, shows an increase in the corresponding figures for the previous year, it is satisfactory to be able to report that very little crime of a serious nature was committed during the year. Only six cases (including two of murder) were brought up for trial before the High Court of Zululand. The capital sentence in one case of murder was carried out.

Of the cases adjudicated upon by the magistrates, 81 required the confirmation of the Chief Magistrate. These included four cases of "culpable homicide," nine of "theft," seven of "cattle-stealing," 17 of "common assault," and seven "faction fights." Crime was more rife in Nqutu district, and there were more convictions in that than in any of the other districts, the majority of cases arising from stock thefts.

Manufactures, Mines, &c.

Very little progress was made in the gold industry. In the Nqutu, Nkandhla, and Entonjaneni Districts, where batteries have been erected, some gold has been extracted, but very little work has been done in developing, whether from want of capital or confidence in the fields.

The revenue from gold fields amounted to 232*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* only as compared with 787*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.* received during 1890. The royalty of 1*s.* 6*d.* per ounce of gold extracted was 5*l.* 11*s.*

Agriculture.

The estimated area of cultivated and uncultivated land is merely approximate (as are also the other figures given in this return), and cannot be taken as correct, though in all probability there has been an increase in the amount of land brought under cultivation during the year. There is no doubt that in each year the use of the plough is becoming more extended.

Owing to plenteous rains throughout the Territory during the summer 1890–91, the season's crops were remarkably good. The harvest of Indian corn (or mealies) was a good one in all the districts, though in those of Entonjaneni, Eshowe and Ndwandwe early crops suffered from the grub, owing to heavy rains.

The current price of Indian corn during the year ranged from 5*s.* to 10*s.* per muid of 200 lbs.

The rate of wages for native labour in Zululand varied from 7*s.* to 15*s.*, but those who sought work in Natal on the railways and elsewhere, of whom there were great numbers, obtained high wages, ranging from 30*s.* to 40*s.* per month. There was little or no disease amongst horned cattle, and in most districts the year was a good one for stock. In the Nqutu and U'Bombo districts, however, the losses in stock are reported to have been comparatively great. Lung sickness was brought into the country through

ZULULAND. 1891.

transport-riding, but the necessary precautions were taken to prevent the spreading of the disease.

Education.

The native schools are all under mission societies. The number of scholars on the roll was 719, as compared with 603 during the year 1890.

The condition as regards education appears to remain the same as was reported on in the Blue Book of 1890.

Ecclesiastical.

A new mission station in connection with the Church of South Africa was established at Nhlwati in Ndwandwe District, and a settlement was also established in Eshowe District by the representatives of the Salvation Army in 1891. These are the only additions to the number of mission stations in Zululand. The See of Zululand, which became vacant by the death of the late Bishop Mackenzie, was filled during 1891 by the Right Reverend W. M. Carter, now Bishop of Zululand.

Health.

Generally the health of the people was good, though, owing to the specially wet season, there were cases of de h from the malarial fever which was prevalent in the Ndwandwe, Lower Umfolosi, and U'Bombo Districts.

General concluding remarks.

The people in Zululand enjoyed much prosperity during the year 1891. A plentiful harvest was reaped throughout the country, and horned cattle, which form the special wealth of the Zulus, increased satisfactorily. No abnormal unhealthiness existed. Money was plentiful owing to the high wages earned by young men who obtained employment on railway and other works in Natal, Kimberley, and the gold mines in the South African Republic. Good order prevailed throughout the year.

In September last locations were demarcated for Usutu and other tribes in Ndwandwe District to the North of the Black Umfolosi River, by a commission appointed for the purpose by His Excellency the Governor. The work was satisfactorily performed and is greatly appreciated by the natives concerned. The Resident Magistrate of Ndwandwe district, in a report on the subject of the laying out of these locations, states as follows :—

"After an exhaustive inquiry the Commission gave its decision "respecting the limits of the several locations on the 23rd of "September. Notwithstanding the representations that are "being made by certain European advocates of the Usutu cause "I feel able to state, as a resident amongst the Usutu, and "one who, I trust, enjoys a fair amount of their confidence,

" that the Commission's decisions have met with very general " satisfaction."

The detachment of troops temporarily stationed in Nkandhla district in November 1890, on account of certain alleged intentions of Transvaal Boers to take up farms in that district was withdrawn on the 30th October last year, as it was considered no longer necessary to keep the troops there.

The force of Zululand police, consisting of 250 non-commissioned officers and men (natives) under an European commandant and five sub-inspectors, continued to maintain its character for efficiency and general usefulness. A detachment of the force is stationed at each of the following places :—

Eshowe (head quarters) Nkandhla, U'Bombo, Ulundi, Lower Umfolosi, Ndwandwe, and in Hlabisa districts.

Gold, especially in quartz, has been found in different parts of Zululand, and, it is confidently stated, in payable quantities in Nqutu and Entonjaneni districts. The profitable working of the discoveries is, it is alleged, delayed on account of the want of sufficient capital by the discoverers, and I understand that to overcome this difficulty efforts for the formation of companies are now being made.

The following minerals are found in Zululand :—Gold, silver (included in lead), lead, copper, tin, iron, asbestos, and coal. None of these, excepting gold, has been worked, nor has any attempt been made to turn them to profitable account.

Eshowe, Zululand,
9th August 1892.

M. OSBORN,
Resident Commissioner

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No. 91.

ZULULAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1892.

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1893.

[C.—6857.–41.]

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
54	Labuan	1891
55	British Guiana	,,
56	Zululand	,,
57	Mauritius	,,
58	Lagos	,,
59	Straits Settlements	,,
60	Ceylon	,,
61	Natal	1891–92
62	Basutoland	,,
63	St. Helena	1891
64	Sierra Leone	,,
65	Jamaica	1891–92
66	Trinidad and Tobago	1891
67	Newfoundland	,,
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	,,
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	,,
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	,,
76	Bahamas	,,
77	Leeward Islands	,,
78	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
79	Malta	,,
80	Gambia	,,
81	Strait Settlements	,,
82	Grenada	,,
83	Barbados	,,
84	St. Vincent	,,
85	Hong Kong	,,
86	St. Lucia	,,
87	Falkland Islands	,,
88	Gold Coast	,,
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 91.

ZULULAND.

[For Report for 1891 *see* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 56.]

Acting Governor F. S. HADEN to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD MARQUESS, Durban, Natal, August 23, 1893.

IN compliance with Colonial Regulations 268–271, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in duplicate, the Blue Book of Zululand for the year 1892, together with a copy of a report upon its contents by Sir Melmoth Osborn, late Resident Commissioner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. S. HADEN,
Acting Governor.

The Most Hon.
the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for the year 1892 by the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue of the territory for the year 1892 amounted to 42,432*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, being 2,352*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* in excess of that of the previous year, which was 40,080*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*

There was an increase in 1892, as compared with 1891, under all heads of revenue. The chief increase was under the heads of Duties, Taxes, Licenses, the receipts under which exceeded those of 1892 by 1,405*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

The expenditure in 1892 was 33,953*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* as compared with 36,118*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* in the previous year, being a decrease of 2,164*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* This excess in 1891 was due chiefly to extraordinary and unforeseen expenditure, in that year, of 3,797*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, including payments of over 2,500*l.* to traders, as compensation for losses during the disturbances in 1888.

The revenue in 1892 exceeded the estimate by 4,326*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* The most important excess occurred under the head "Taxes, Duties, Licenses, &c.," the amount received thereunder being

ZULULAND. 1892.

3,296*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* in excess of the estimate, of which 2,730*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* was received under the Sub-head "Hut Tax, the principal source of revenue of the territory.

The expenditure in 1892 was less than estimated by 5,738*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, savings having been effected under each head of expendiure.

Public Debt.

Nil.

Military Expenditure.

The cost of the Zululand Native Police during the year was 10,010*l.* 6*s.* 0*d.*, being less than the estimate by 652*l.* 14*s.* 0*d.* and a small casual increase on the expenditure of 1891 for the service.

Public Works.

Very few, and no important, public works were provided for and undertaken in 1892. The new Court House at Eshowe was completed, and there were additions to the Eshowe gaol and Residency, &c. Offices were erected in the new district of Hlabisa. There was further expenditure in the construction of the new road to the Tugela which was opened for traffic as far as the Matikulu river.

Legislation.

Included in the legislation was a proclamation by his Excellency the Governor defining the new magisterial district of Hlabisa, and amending the boundaries of other adjoining districts, and a proclamation providing for compulsory attendance of witnesses before courts of law of the South African Republic.

Establishment.

The only important addition was the creation of a new magisterial district at Hlabisa, and the appointment of a magistrate and staff therefor.

Pensions or Stipends.

The Chief Mnyamana, who was formerly Prime Minister to he late Zulu King Cetywayo, and who was one of the Chiefs to whom stipends have been paid by the Government, during good behaviour, since the annexation of Zululand, died during the year. The amount paid to the late Chief was 10*l.* per month. Half this amount is paid to Mnyamana's successor, Ishauebezwe.

Population.

The white population is estimated at about 700. The figures for the return of the native population can only be furnished approximately. Taking, as the basis of calculation, the amount of Hut Tax paid for the year, and estimating that there are $3\frac{1}{3}$ souls to each hut, the native population is approximately as follows, viz. :—

Males.	Females.	Total.
69,489	84,932	154,421

These figures show a considerable estimated increase in the population as compared with the previous year, which is partly accounted for by the influx or return into Zululand of Zulus from surrounding territories. Such natives are not now permitted to take up residence in the territory unless under special circumstances.

Criminal Statistics.

There is an increase in the number of offences reported to, and in the number of convictions before, the Courts in 1892 as compared with 1891, which increase may be accounted for by increased magistracies, and, consequently, more complete supervision.

There was, on the whole, little increase in the number of serious crimes committed in 1892. Four cases of murder were dealt with in the High Court of Zululand, in two of which sentence of death was passed and carried out. There were 113 convictions (embracing 230 persons) before the courts of resident magistrates, which required the confirmation of the chief magistrate. Of these cases the most serious were 1 of culpable homicide, 11 of cattle stealing, 4 faction fights, 25 thefts, and 31 of assault.

Mines.

Some gold-mining operations have been carried on during the year, and the gold out-put amounted to 786 ounces; but little activity or interest was shown in the industry, and two or three small batteries which had been erected in Entonjaneni and some other districts were shut down, while about a similar number are in course of construction in Nkandhla District and elsewhere. It is believed, however, that gold and coal exist in Zululand in payable quantities, and that the fields will shortly be developed.

The discovery of extensive seams of coal of good quality in one of the coast districts has been officially reported by the discoverers, who have applied for mining or mineral leases.

Agriculture, &c.

The year was a good one for all kinds of stock, which was generally free from disease, and there was a large natural increase in the cattle, &c. of the natives. A mild form of foot-and-mouth disease made its appearance, but no losses resulted therefrom.

Early and continuous rains at the end of 1891 promised exceptionally good crops, but owing to the small rainfall during February and March, 1892, the crops of the natives, especially maize, suffered seriously, and it was thought by some that there would be a great scarcity of food amongst the people. That this was avoided was due to the harvest of the previous season having been an exceedingly good one, and, as money was plentiful amongst the natives, those whose stock of grain proved insufficient were able to purchase food.

Health.

The health of the people was good, except in the low-lying parts of the Lower Umfolosi, and U'Bombo Districts, where many deaths occur every year from the malarial fever which prevails in those localities in the wet season (summer). Small-pox was brought in, in the month of September, from the South African Republic, Ndwandwe and U'Bombo being the infected districts. By strict isolation of the two or three kraals at which it had broken out, the disease was prevented from spreading, and it totally disappeared towards the close of the year, though the quarantine regulations were enforced, and the removal of natives from one district to another, and from the country, was prevented for a considerably longer period. A large percentage of the population was vaccinated through the medium of the resident magistrates and the Chiefs.

Concluding remarks.

As will have been seen from the monthly reports of the Resident Commissioner, the general condition of things was highly satisfactory during 1892. There was little crime, and very few faction fights took place. No difficulty was experienced in the collection of the Hut-tax, which was punctually and readily paid by the natives. Nothing occurred to disturb the tranquillity, good order, and contentment which continued to prevail, the natives showing a ready disposition to abide by the laws and the orders of the Government throughout the territory.

Eshowe, Zululand,
29th July 1893.

(Signed) M. OSBORN,
Resident Commissioner.

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